



Daily Report

East Asia

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Japan

Lower House Passes Tax Reform Measures

OW1611085788 Tokyo KYODO in English 0743 GMT
16 Nov 88

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 16 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita on Wednesday came a major step closer to fulfilling his goal of reforming the nation's tax system as the House of Representatives cleared a package of six tax bills on which he has staked his political life.

Takeshita's ruling Liberal Democratic Party members voted in a plenary session to pass the bills through the powerful lower chamber, overwhelming the second- and third-largest opposition parties, Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), which voted against the bills.

Outside the chamber, the Japan Socialist Party and Japan Communist Party boycotted the voting session, denouncing the LDP for ignoring their demands to reopen debate on the bills at a House Tax System Committee.

The lower house plenary session approved the legislation after adding amendments and sent them immediately to the upper chamber.

The LDP is aiming to extend by one month the current extraordinary Diet session, convened July 19 and scheduled to end November 24 in order to clear the tax reform package through the upper house.

Following a series of late Tuesday through Wednesday morning, the LDP and the two centrist opposition parties reached broad accord on the revisions.

Among the amendments were an income tax reduction on retirement allowances for workers and individuals with elderly and bedridden dependents.

The JSP protested the proceedings and issued a statement that all preconditions for taking a vote on the bills will not have been met until a complete investigation into an insider stock scandal involving Recruit Co. is made. It also vowed to fight until the bills are scrapped. The JCP issued a similar statement.

The tax package calls for a large reduction in both corporate and personal income taxes.

The bills also include a controversial 3-percent indirect tax, referred to as a consumption tax, to be imposed on all goods and services effective April 1, 1989.

The DSP urged the LDP to postpone by one year the implementation of the consumption tax. The two parties agreed to incorporate a clause in the bills allowing tax authorities to be flexible in collecting the indirect tax during the first six months beginning April 1.

The LDP, Komeito and the DSP resumed business in the Diet on Tuesday evening after reaching an accord to establish a special committee in the House of Representatives to look into the Recruit Cosmos insider stock trading scandal.

Diet business has been stalled since the LDP powered the tax package bills through the tax system committee last Thursday amid protests from opposition party members.

Prime Minister Takeshita has made tax reform his top priority, the first such overhaul of Japan's tax system in 40 years.

Takeshita has argued that the current tax system is unfair and relies too heavily on direct taxes.

Two of his predecessors, the late Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira and former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, both tried to introduce a new indirect tax but were forced to withdraw their plans in the face of stiff opposition.

A list of 26 politicians and bureaucrats, including their aides and families, who bought unlisted shares of Recruit's real estate subsidiary, Recruit Cosmos Co. was released Tuesday to the 50-member panel established the same day.

Top secretaries to Takeshita, Nakasone, and LDP Secretary General Shintaro Abe were among those who bought stock in Recruit Cosmos Co. shortly before its shares were publicly put on the market in October 1986 and made large profits after selling them immediately afterward.

Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa was the only cabinet-level incumbent specifically included on the list.

The committee has agreed to summon the founder of the Recruit Co. and two government officials next Wednesday to question them about the stock scandal.

The three to be called before the committee are Hiro-masa Ezoe, former chairman of Recruit, Kunio Takaishi, former vice minister of education, and former Vice Minister of Labor Takashi Kato.

Agriculture Minister Deplores Yeutter Statement

OW1711072788 Tokyo KYODO in English 0709 GMT
17 Nov 88

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 17 KYODO—Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Takashi Sato said Thursday he deplored a statement by U.S. Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter last month that he might urge the U.S. rice industry to refile a petition demanding retaliation against Japan over its rice import curbs.

Sato, speaking at a session of representatives of management, labor and the government at a Tokyo hotel, accused Yeutter of trying to extract some particular response only from Japan over global farm trade disputes.

Yeutter rejected the U.S. rice industry's petition to open the Japanese market on October 29 but said he would invite the rice industry to file the complaint afresh if Japan failed to live up to a commitment to make reforms at a trade meeting in Montreal, Canada, in December. The meeting will review progress in the Uruguay round of multilateral talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Labor Minister Taro Nakamura told the forum that his ministry is studying how the domestic employment situation would be affected by liberalization of farm imports.

Miyazawa Welcomes Brady Retention at Treasury
OW1611133988 Tokyo KYODO in English 1138 GMT
16 Nov 88

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 16 KYODO—Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa Wednesday welcomed U.S. President-Elect George Bush's decision to retain Nicholas Brady as secretary of the treasury.

Miyazawa said Bush's decision showed his determination to stabilize global foreign exchange markets.

Bush, in announcing his choice of Brady as new treasury secretary Tuesday, said his administration will maintain close policy coordination with Western allies.

Miyazawa expressed the belief that Brady's stay in office will help promote Western policy coordination for stabilization of foreign exchange markets.

Foreign Ministry on Palestinian Declaration
OW1611130588 Tokyo KYODO in English 1232 GMT
16 Nov 88

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 16 KYODO—Japan welcomes the Palestine National Council's (PNC) political declaration as an important step toward peaceful settlement of the Middle East problem, Foreign Ministry spokesman Yoshifumi Matsuda said Wednesday.

In a written statement, Matsuda said that the renouncing of terrorism implicitly referred to in the declaration will help create a political environment to inaugurate peace negotiations.

Japan will cooperate with the countries concerned in their peacemaking efforts, Matsuda said.

As for the proclamation of an independent Palestinian state by the PNC, the spokesman said Japan understands its significance as the realization of a long-cherished dream of the Palestinian people.

The statement stopped short of saying whether Japan would recognize the Palestinian state.

Foreign Ministry sources, however, say it is still premature to talk about recognition since the Palestinian state has no definite border and has no territory under its effective control.

Diplomatic Blue Book Outlines Foreign Policy
OW1111011088 Tokyo KYODO in English 0045 GMT
11 Nov 88

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 11 KYODO—Japan, whose gross national product accounts for over 10 percent of the world economy, should "actively bear the necessary costs entailed in ensuring world peace and prosperity," according to the Foreign Ministry's 1988 diplomatic blue book released Friday.

The 493-page report, which outlines international developments and Japanese foreign policy between April 1987 and July 1988, also proposes that Japan make positive contributions for a better world in a wide range of areas.

The annual report, approved by a cabinet meeting Friday, describes Japan's diplomatic position as a member of the free and democratic world as well as a country in the Asia-Pacific region.

The blue book, although calling Japan-U.S. relations "the cornerstone" of Japanese foreign policy, says it is imperative that Japan place a main priority on strengthening its relations with Europe to balance trilateral relations among Japan, the U.S. and Europe.

It also stresses that Japan should work to strengthen friendly and cooperative relations with other Asia-Pacific countries and contribute to peace and prosperity in the region.

Among the major tasks of Japanese foreign diplomacy, the book cites Japan's contribution to the sound development of the world economy and its international cooperation policies.

The book urges Japan to "make a vigorous contribution to the success of the Uruguay round of multilateral trade negotiations" in order to maintain and strengthen the free trade system, which is the basis of worldwide economic development.

As for Japan's international cooperation policies, the publication reiterates that cooperation for peace, expansion of official development assistance (ODA) and promotion of international cultural exchanges are immediate priorities.

"Japan must participate positively in peacekeeping efforts under the United Nations and other international auspices, including the dispatch of personnel," the Foreign Ministry said.

On East-West relations, the book states that although there are new initiatives toward a more stable relationship, there has been no political change in the fundamentally adversarial structure of East-West ties.

It warns that the Soviet Union has not changed its drive for strength in every area of political, economic and military affairs.

The report adds that the basic antagonism between the East and West continues and tensions still remain.

Referring to its relations with the Soviet Union, the book stresses the need for expansion and strengthening of bilateral dialogue to improve relations between Tokyo and Moscow.

On defense issues, Japan is striving to develop moderate yet effective defense capabilities in line with its basic policies of maintaining and exclusively defensive posture and never becoming a military power, the report says.

Soviet Nuclear Expert Invited To Lecture
OW1611064088 Tokyo KYODO in English 1342 GMT 15 Nov 88

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 15 KYODO—Yevgeniy P. Velikhov, vice president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, is scheduled to visit Japan for 10 days starting December 1 to lecture on his country's nuclear energy policy, the Atomic Energy Commission of Japan said Tuesday.

The commission said it has invited Velikhov, who was in charge of Soviet efforts to cope with the April 1986 Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster.

He is expected to deliver a speech at a lecture meeting to be sponsored chiefly by the Science and Technology Agency in Tokyo on December 6, the commission said.

Nuclear Reactor Reaches 'Criticality'
OW1611075688 Tokyo KYODO in English 0627 GMT 16 Nov 88

[Text] Tomari, Hokkaido, Nov. 16 KYODO—One of two nuclear reactors at the Tomari nuclear power plant in Tomari, west of Sapporo, reached criticality Wednesday, the operating company said.

Hokkaido Electric Power Co. brought the 579,000-kilowatt pressurized water reactor into experimental operation on October 17.

The plant reached a stable condition of nuclear fission around 10:50 a.m. Wednesday, when the last four of 29 control rods were pulled out of the reactor's core, company officials said.

The reactor will start producing electric power on a test basis early next month and is expected to go into commercial operation in next June, the officials said.

Construction work on the second reactor is 70 percent completed, the officials said.

A ceremony was held at the complex Wednesday to mark the criticality of the first reactor. Guests included the company's President Komo Yotsuyanagi and Tomari Mayor Shoji Yoshimura.

North Korea

6th Meeting Between North-South Representatives

SK1711014588 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0109 GMT 17 Nov

[Text] The sixth meeting between representatives of the North and the South for the preparation of a North-South joint parliamentary meeting began at a building on the South side of Panmunjom.

As was already reported, at the fifth meeting held on 13 October, our side put forth a new proposal to realize the main parliamentary talks at an early date by making progress at the meeting when it had been deadlocked.

A number of domestic and foreign reporters came to Panmunjom to cover today's meeting.

Chon Kum-chol, head of our side's delegation, as well as An Pyong-su, Yi Tong-chol, Yi Chu-ung, and Pak Mun-chan, deputies of the SPA, attended the meeting as our side's representatives. Five representatives from the South attended the meeting.

At the meeting, representatives of both sides exchanged greetings and held a conversation. Following this, they began to discuss the basic issues.

North Delegate Speaks at Talks

SK1711045388 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0200 GMT 17 Nov 88

[Text] The sixth meeting between delegates of the North and South to prepare for a North-South joint parliamentary meeting is continuing at a building on the South side of Panmunjom.

Chon Kum-chol, the head of our delegation, spoke at the meeting.

He said that he was pleased that, with the important mission of guaranteeing peace in our country and hastening its peaceful reunification, the parliamentarians of both sides were able to get together again today at a time when the entire nation's aspirations and desire for independent, peaceful reunification are being raised higher than ever. He went on to say that both sides must make every sincere effort to bring about good results in today's meeting, the sixth such meeting. He also said that tension and confrontation between the North and South must come to an end and that our politicians, as well as the persons in authority on both sides, are charged with the important task of bringing an end to this abnormal situation within the nation. He stressed that, in step with the global trend toward alleviation [of tensions], we must bring an end to the confrontation between the North and South and begin a new phase of reconciliation, unity, and peace at all costs through a joint national effort.

Our side's delegation head said that from this desire, since the first day of the Panmunjom meeting, we have advanced realistic and reasonable proposals and have made every effort for smooth progress in the meeting, while making concessions. He went on to say: As for the form of a parliamentary meeting, at first, with an intention to provide a stage for dialogue where opinions of people from all walks of life could be more widely reflected, we proposed to convene a North-South joint parliamentary meeting to be attended by representatives of various political parties and social organizations, as well as personages from all walks of life from the North and South. However, in consideration of the South's opinion, we withdrew this plan to have representatives of political parties and organizations and personages from all walks of life attend the meeting. Following this, we put forth a compromise proposal conceding on the form of a joint parliamentary meeting attended by all the parliamentarians of both sides in favor of a North-South combined parliamentary meeting.

Moreover, considering your side's opinion on controlling the number of participants, at the fifth meeting our side put forth a new compromise proposal conceding on the issue of convening a combined parliamentary meeting attended by all the parliamentarians of both sides in favor of a combined parliamentary meeting to be attended by a third of all the SPA deputies on our side and by a half of all the parliamentarians on your side. This proposal was advanced after making great concessions.

As it did on the form of the parliamentary meeting, our side also showed magnanimity regarding the items on the agenda. When we first proposed a parliamentary meeting, we proposed the announcement of a joint North-South nonaggression declaration and the 24th Olympic Games as items on the agenda. When the issue of the Olympic games was automatically eliminated, we proposed to adopt, as a basic agenda item, the issue of announcing a joint North-South nonaggression declaration. In addition to the nonaggression declaration and

Olympic issues, the South side proposed, as agenda items, the issue of resuming the Red Crosss and economic talks, the issue of human and material exchange, the issue of summit talks, and various other issues.

Under such circumstances, our side, willingly accepting the South's demands that the issue of resuming the Red Cross talks and the issue of realizing humanitarian and material exchanges be included on the agenda, has decided to add the issue of realizing a many-sided cooperation and exchange between the North and South on the agenda as a comprehensive proposal, to settle the question concerning the agenda at an early date.

Our side's repeated concessions concerning the form of parliamentary talks and question of the agenda are undoubtedly a clear expression of our sincere effort to realize the North-South parliamentary talks at an early date, attaching great significance to them.

Regrettably, however, despite our repeated concessions, the meeting has failed to make any progress, only marking time. This is the reality.

Stating that we have now reached a point where we should look at the demands of the national history and the trends of the times more closely than ever, make wise choices, and earnestly begin a new phase for peace and peaceful reunification of the country based on the strength of our own people, senior delegate Chon Kum-chol said: As is widely reported and widely known, the joint meeting of the Central People's Committee, the SPA Standing Committee, and the State Administration Council, held in Pyongyang on 7 November, put on the agenda all-inclusive measures to promote the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and addressed the important question of measures to remove the danger of war and to realize durable peace on the Korean peninsula.

Considering the prevailing realities in our country, the joint meeting put forth anew four principles—whose substance includes aspirations for reunification, withdrawal of foreign troops, reduction of armed forces in the North and South, and negotiations between the parties concerned—as a common basis for guaranteeing peace on the Korean peninsula.

In particular, the joint meeting put forward an all-inclusive peace proposal envisaging a phased reduction of all the armed forces on the Korean peninsula and the relaxation of the political and military confrontation for the present.

The comprehensive peace proposal put forth by the joint meeting can be said to be a very reasonable program for peace designed to ease the acute confrontation and tension between the North and South and to credibly guarantee durable peace on the Korean peninsula.

If and when our side's comprehensive peace proposal is realized, the danger of war on the Korean peninsula will be eliminated and the danger of a nuclear war will also be removed, while the Korean peninsula, which has been considered a breeding ground for war, will be turned into a safe nuclear-free, peace zone.

What is more, the misunderstanding, distrust, feuds, and confrontation between the North and South, which have existed for decades, will be brought to an end, and a new phase of reconciliation, trust, and unity will be unfurled within the nation, thereby implanting in the hearts of the entire population a new hope for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Saying that the situation at home and abroad demands that our Panmunjom meeting be accelerated and that the convening of a parliamentary meeting be hastened, the head of our side's delegation put forth an epochal revised proposal.

1. The form of meeting:

a. The North-South parliamentary meeting should be held in the form of an opening meeting, meetings for the discussion of basic issues, and a closing meeting.

b. The opening and closing meetings should be held in the form of joint meetings in which all the members of the parliaments of the North and South would participate.

c. The meetings for the discussion of basic issues should be held in the form of delegates in which 100 representatives from each side participate.

d. The opening meeting should be convened in Pyongyang within a month from the Panmunjom meeting of the parliamentarians.

e. The first meeting of delegates for the discussion of basic issues should be held in Pyongyang within a month from the opening meeting, and the ensuing meetings should be held alternately in Pyongyang and Seoul on the basis of a 1-month cycle.

f. The closing session shall be convened within 1 month after the closing of the meeting of representatives for the discussion of the basic issues.

2. Procedure for the operation of the meeting:

a. The opening and closing sessions shall be operated by the cochairmen [kongdong uijangje] of the North and South and presided over by them alternately.

b. At the opening session, the chairmen from both sides shall make opening speeches and representatives of political parties in the North and South holding parliamentary seats and individual figures shall make congratulatory speeches.

c. The opening session shall confirm the issues agreed upon at the meeting of parliamentarians at Panmunjom and shall announce the namelist of representatives of both sides who will be dispatched to the meeting of representatives for the discussion of the basic issues.

d. The meeting of representatives for the discussion of basic issues shall form an executive body comprising the representatives of each political party. The differences in opinions raised at the meeting of representatives shall be discussed and adjusted by the executive body.

e. For the smooth operation of the meeting of representatives, a joint operational committee shall be formed comprising five members from each side.

f. The meeting of representatives for the discussion of basic issues shall work out a joint agreement on issues agreed upon.

g. The final agreement on the basic issues at the meeting of representatives shall be made in the form of unanimous agreement. As for the unanimous agreement, in the event that a small minority opposes and the absolute majority agrees, this shall be regarded as an agreement.

h. The closing session shall confirm with applause the joint agreement prepared by the meeting of representatives.

i. At the closing session, representatives of political parties in the North and South holding parliamentary seats and individual figures shall make congratulatory speeches and the chairmen of the parliaments of both sides shall make the closing speeches.

Stressing that our new revised plans fully reflect the will and demand of the South side and are the greatest concession of our side, the head of our side's delegation said:

As a matter of fact, in today's new revised plans, our side showed magnanimity of accepting nearly as it is the parliamentary talks formula insisted upon by the South side.

We accepted as it is the South side's assertion to make the opening and closing sessions a joint parliamentary meeting in which all parliamentarians of both sides attend. We also reasonably adjusted and accepted the proposal for a meeting of representatives for the discussion of the basic issues as a form of meeting of representatives.

As for the procedure for the operation of the parliamentary talks, we revised the issue of final agreement from the method of decision by the majority to the system of unanimous agreement which foresees the approval by the absolute majority, taking the South side's assertions into full account.

Our position toward the issue of agenda is clear. The issue of nonaggression laid for discussion has become the focal point for discussion between the two sides and an important matter of interest of all fellow countrymen today. Under such circumstances, we recognize it as a reasonable and urgent act in every aspect to designate the issue of publishing a joint North-South nonaggression declaration as an agenda item.

If the issue of realizing multisided North-South cooperation and exchanges is adopted as an agenda item, the issue of resuming the existing dialogue and the issue of exchanging manpower and materials can be comprehensively resolved. Thus, an agreement can be easily reached on this issue.

I believe that because our new revised plans fully reflect the South side's demand, your side will have no difficulty in accepting our new revised plan.

He expressed expectations that the discussion of the formula for the parliamentary talks and for the agenda items be concluded at the meeting based on our revised plans and that following this, the discussion of the procedures for the operation of the talks and methods for the talks be undertaken.

KCNA Reports New Proposal

SK1711045488 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0441 GMT 17 Nov 88

[Text] Panmunjom November 17 (KCNA)—In his speech at the sixth round of meeting of the North and South delegates for the preparations of North-South joint parliamentary meeting now being held in the building of the South side at Panmunjom, head of our delegation Chon Kum-chol noted that the opening of plenary meeting is delayed indefinitely, while the parliamentarians of both sides have met and argued right and wrong with regard to the form and agenda items of talks for several months. He said that the present situation within and without demands the acceleration of our Panmunjom meeting and the convocation of a parliamentary meeting at an early date.

In order to break the deadlock and open a new phase in the meeting, he submitted the following epochal revised proposals:

1. Form of meeting

a. North-South parliamentary meeting will be held as an opening session, meeting for the discussion of basic problems and a closing session.

b. The opening and closing sessions will be held as joint meeting with all the parliamentarians of the North and the South attending.

c. The meeting for the discussion of basic problems will be held as representative meetings with the participation of 100 parliamentarians each from both side.

d. The opening session will be convened in pyongyang within one month after the end of the Panmunjom meeting of parliamentarians.

e. The first representative meeting for the discussion of basic problems will be convened in seoul within one month after the opening session and, from the next meeting, it will be held in Pyongyang and Seoul alternately in the period of one month.

f. The closing session will be convened within one month after the end of the representative meeting for the discussion of the basic problems.

2. Procedure of the steering of the meeting.

a. The opening and closing sessions will be operated by co-chairmen of the North and the South and presided over by them alternately.

b. At the opening session, opening speeches will be made by the chairmen of both parliaments and congratulatory speeches by representatives of political parties which have their seats in the parliaments and individual persons from the North and the South.

c. The opening session will confirm problems agreed upon at Panmunjom meeting of parliamentarians and make public the lists of both delegates of the two sides to be sent to representative meeting for the discussion of basic problems.

d. At the representative meeting for discussion of basic problems, the executive will be formed with representatives of political parties. Differences of opinion at the representative meeting will be discussed and coordinated at the executive.

e. A joint steering committee will be formed with five persons each from both sides for the smooth operation of the representative meeting.

f. The representative meeting for the discussion of basic problems will work out a joint agreement on problems agreed upon.

g. The final agreement on basic problems will be adopted in the form of unanimous approval. in case the minority opposes and the majority approves, it will be considered to be an agreement.

h. The closing session will confirm with applause a joint agreement worked out at representative meeting.

i. At the closing session congratulatory speeches will be made by representatives of political parties which have their seats in the parliaments and individual persons from the north and the south and closing speeches by chairmen of both parliaments.

Chon Kum-chol said: Our new revised proposals fully reflect the will and demand of the South side and it is the greatest concession of our side.

Clear is our stand on the agenda items the keynote of which is publication of a joint declaration on non-aggression between the North and the South and multilateral cooperation and exchange between them, stressed Chon Kum-chol.

North-South Meeting Ends

SK1711072888 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
0600 GMT 17 Nov 88

[Text] The sixth meeting between the representatives of the North and South for the preparation of a North-South joint parliamentary meeting ended at 1310 [0410 GMT] today.

As was already reported, at today's meeting, our side put forth epochal revised plans to break the deadlock of and open a new phase in the Panmunjom meeting.

Concerning the formula of the talks, our side presented a six-point proposal. The proposal is as follows:

The North-South parliamentary talks will be composed of the opening session, the meeting for the discussion of basic issues, and the closing session; the opening and closing session will be a joint meeting attended by all North-South parliamentarians and the meeting to discuss the basic issues will be a meeting of representatives attended by 100 representatives from each side; the opening session will be convened in Pyongyang within 1 month after the closing of the meeting between the parliamentarians at Panmunjom; the first session of the meeting of representatives to discuss the basic issues will be held in Seoul within 1 month after the opening session is held and following this, the meeting will be held in Pyongyang and Seoul alternately on the basis of a 1-month cycle; and the closing session will be convened within 1 month after the closing of the meeting of representatives for the discussion of basic issues.

Our side also put forth concrete proposals concerning the procedure for the operation of the meeting. As for the issue of agenda items, our side proposed that the issue of a joint declaration of nonaggression between the North and South and the issue of realizing multisided North-South cooperation and exchanges be designated as agenda items.

Our side's new proposals at today's meeting are epochal and reasonable proposals which comprehensively accepted the assertion and demand of the South side.

On the other hand, the South side, in essence, repeated its previous assertions. Concerning the formula of talks, the South side proposed that talks be composed of the opening session, the meeting of representatives to discuss the agenda items and the closing session and that the number of representatives who participate in the meeting of representatives to discuss the agenda items be more or less 20 members from each side. Thus, the South side again talked about efficiency and productivity.

As for the issue of agenda items, the South side again presented the three agenda items, which it advanced previously, after a slight change in their contents. In today's meeting, over our epochal, forward-looking, and reasonable proposal, the South side delayed for time by coming up with nonessential and secondary issues. Moreover, as for the number of delegates, it refused to accept [our proposal].

In our opening remarks, to make progress in the meeting, our side proposed that a delegation be composed of 100 representatives, after revising our initial proposal. Our side again proposed that the delegation of both sides be composed of respectively 50 delegates, after again making concessions. In the middle of the meeting, the South side requested that the meeting be adjourned till 1230 in the afternoon and to continue the meeting after that. As a result, the meeting was adjourned for no fewer than 40 minutes.

When the meeting resumed, thanks to our side's patient efforts, (?an agreement) was reached on the form of the meeting as follows:

1. A North-South parliamentary meeting will be composed of an opening session, a meeting for the discussion of basic issues, and a closing session.
2. The opening and closing sessions will be combined meetings attended by all North-South parliamentarians.
3. Fifty delegates of both sides will respectively attend a meeting for the discussion of basic issues.

As for the issue of the venue of the meeting, the issue of organizing an executive body, and the issue of a joint steering committee, an agreement was reached to adopt our proposal. As for the form of approval at the meeting, an agreement was reached to adopt, in essence, a complete unanimity system.

Today, with regard to the form of the meeting for the discussion of basic issues, even though it agreed to organize an executive body for a meeting between representatives and a joint steering committee, the South side rejected a meeting between representatives under an unjust pretext [as heard]. As a result, no agreement was reached on the form of the meeting and it was decided to again discuss this in the next meeting.

No agreement was reached on the discussion of the issue of agenda items. It was agreed to hold the next, seventh meeting at Tongilgak on our side on 15 December.

The sixth meeting between the delegates of the North and South to prepare for a North-South joint parliamentary meeting ended.

Preparatory Meeting Concludes

*SK1711105588 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1043 GMT 17 Nov 88*

[Text] Panmunjom November 17 (KCNA)—The sixth round of meeting of the North and South delegates for preparation of North-South joint parliamentary meeting closed today at 13 hours 10 minutes.

As already reported, at today's meeting our side put forward an epochal revised proposal in order to break the deadlock and open a new phase in the panmunjom meeting.

In the form of meeting our side submitted a six-point proposal—a North-South parliamentary meeting will consist of an opening session, meetings for the discussion of basic problems and a closing session, the opening and closing sessions will be held as joint meetings with all the parliamentarians of the North and the South attending, the meetings for the discussion of basic problems will be held as representative meetings with the participation of 100 parliamentarians each from both sides, the opening session will be convened in Pyongyang within one month after the end of the Panmunjom meeting of parliamentarians, the first representative meeting for the discussion of basic problems will be convened in Seoul within one month after the opening session and, from the next meeting, it will be held in Pyongyang and Seoul alternately each month, and the closing session will be convened within one month after the end of the last representative meeting for the discussion of the basic problems. [sentence as received]

Our side advanced detailed proposals regarding the procedure of steering of the meeting and proposed to raise the problem of a joint declaration on non-aggression between the North and the South and the problem of effecting multilateral cooperation and interchange between the North and the South as agenda items.

The new proposal put forward by our side at today's meeting is an epochal and reasonable one fully accepting the assertion and demand of the South side.

Meanwhile, the South side repeated its original assertion in essence.

In regard to the form of meeting, the South side demanded that the meeting be held as an "opening meeting", "delegates talks for the discussion of the agenda" and "a closing meeting" and the number of delegates participating in the "delegates talks for the discussion of the agenda" be around 20 persons each from both side, while talking about "efficiency" and "productivity", again.

Concerning the agenda, the South side submitted again the original three agenda items, changing some expressions.

The South side dragged on time with inessential and trifling questions against our epochal, progressive and reasonable proposals and refused to accept even the number of persons.

Our side offered a revised proposal to reduce the number of participants to 50 each from both sides, making a concession of the number of 100 participants proposed in the first remarks.

The South side called for recess till 12:30, taking a rest for nearly 40 minutes.

At the resumed meeting, the following agreement was reached in the problem of the form of meeting thanks to our side's patient efforts:

1. a North-South parliamentary meeting will consist of an opening session, meetings for the discussion of basic problems and a closing session.
2. The opening and closing sessions will be joint meetings with all the parliamentarians of the North and the South attending.
3. The meetings for the discussion of basic problems will be participated in by 50 delegates each from both sides.

The place of the meeting, the formation of the executive and the joint steering committee came to an agreement as proposed by us, and the problem of adoption at the meeting was agreed to take the form of full agreement in essence.

In connection with the problem of the form of meetings for the discussion of basic problems, the problem of the form of meetings failed to reach an agreement because the South side refused to accept representative meetings with an unjust excuse after it agreed to form the executive and the joint steering committee for the representative meetings.

It was agreed to discuss the problem of the form of meeting at the next meeting.

No agreement has been reached in the discussion of the agenda items.

It was agreed to hold the next seventh meeting on December 15 at Tongilgak of our side.

Daily Urges South To Respond to Proposals

*SK1711102988 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1020 GMT 17 Nov 88*

[Text] Pyongyang November 17 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today in a signed article stresses that such fundamental problems as political and military problems

must be settled first at North-South dialogue for leading North-South dialogue to a success and peacefully solving the problem of national reunification.

Resolving such fundamental problems as political and military problems at North-South dialogue is an urgent task to create basic preconditions for national reunification, the mission of North-South dialogue, the article says, and continues:

Only when such important measures as the withdrawal of the U.S. forces from the Korean peninsula, the reduction of the armed forces of the North and the South and the removing of the political and military confrontation, are taken, can an end be put to the history of misunderstanding, mistrust, antagonism and confrontation which has lasted for scores of years between the North and the South, a new phase of reconciliation, trust and national unity be opened and top-level talks be convened to pave the way for settling such important problem as founding a unified state through confederation.

The South Korean authorities have no intention to solve such fundamental problems as political and military problems at North-South dialogue but put forward such matters of secondary importance as problems of dispersed families, visits and trade. This is a splittist move to drag on time and obstruct the reunification, deceiving public opinion by making it appear as if they were interested in the problem of North-South relations.

Now the South Korean authorities, at the instigation of the U.S. imperialists, pay a lip service to "dialogue" and "reunification" but act differently.

Refusing to take the road of solving the political and military problems whose settlement brooks no further delay for the improvement of North-South relations and for peace and peaceful reunification, no matter how many times the South Korean ruling quarters may talk about "dialogue", "detente" and "reunification", it is a sham.

The South Korean authorities should affirmatively respond to our four principles for a guarantee of peace and package of peace overtures for their realisation. How they approach our epochal overture will be a touchstone showing whether or not they want peace and reunification.

Daily Criticizes Two-Koreas Scheme
SK1711001188 Pyongyang Domestic Service
in Korean 0007 GMT 14 88

[NODONG SINMUN 14 November commentary:
"Fabricating Two Koreas Can Never Be Compatible
With Peace"]

[Text] These days, the divisionists within and without are becoming even more unbridled in pursuing the criminal scheme for two Koreas, while propagandizing

such divisionist proposals as the so-called cross-contact, cross-recognition, and northward policy and raving as if creating two Koreas is the way to plant the seed of peace on the Korean peninsula.

Saying that the fabrication of two Koreas is the way to maintain peace on the Korean peninsula is nonsensical and far-fetched sophistry.

If Korea is divided into two, this is not favorable for peace on the Korean peninsula but, on the contrary, will only aggravate tension and increase the danger of a war.

The seeds of a durable and solid peace have not been planted deeply on the Korean peninsula, rather the dark clouds of growing tension and of the danger of a war hang heavily over the peninsula all the time. This is basically due to the division of our country, which is caused by the U.S. imperialists' military occupation of South Korea.

The cursed history of distrust, misunderstanding, friction, and confrontation began between the North and South on the Korean peninsula where our nation has lived in harmony as a consanguineous nation for thousands of years. This is precisely the result of the division of our country by foreign force.

Precisely because of this, the miserable war of destruction and slaughter broke out on this land which should be at peace, and even today the acute political and military confrontation continues between the North and South and the danger of a war grows.

If there were no foreign troops in South Korea and if our country were not divided, such a tragedy, which imposes misfortune and agony on our nation, would not have been created in the first place.

Raving as if the fabrication of two Koreas will remove distrust between the North and South and promote harmony between them and contribute to stabilizing the situation and providing a guarantee for peace is an absurdity designed to deceive and mock public opinion at home and abroad.

The history of the division, which has continued for more than 40 years, and the current tense situation on the Korean peninsula show that nothing will come of this but distrust and confrontation, which will grow between the North and South; the situation will become aggravated; and the causes for war will grow further. This will be the only result if the division of Korea is perpetuated through the fabrication of two Koreas.

The fabrication of two Koreas is a product of the aggressive Asia-Pacific strategy of the U.S. imperialists, and is a requirement of their Korean policy.

The basic objective which the U.S. imperialists pursue in the Asia-Pacific region is to check the socialist and progressive forces in the region with strength and to gain their domination and control over this region.

Proceeding from this, the U.S. imperialists are attaching more and more importance to the strategic position of South Korea, which is close to their strongest ally—Japan—and which is located at a strategic point on the Asian continent, and are trying to hold fast onto it by all means.

The objective of the U.S. imperialists scheme to fabricate two Koreas is to make South Korea their permanent colony and military base and a most favorable anti-communist stronghold to invade our Republic and other Asian socialist countries by obstructing the reunification of our country and perpetuating the division.

Some time ago, Reagan, at the talks with traitor No Tae-u, said that now is not the time to talk about the reduction of the U.S. forces in South Korea or their withdrawal, or about the question of operational command. This lays bare the hidden intention of the U.S. imperialists to remain in South Korea indefinitely.

The U.S. imperialists have recently put a new divisionist policy, the so-called northward policy, in the hands of the South Korean puppets and, along with the Japanese reactionaries, are actively offering behind-the-scenes help for its realization. They are trumpeting this policy as if it were favorable for the reunification of Korea and for planting the seed of peace.

The so-called northward policy, the script of which was written by the U.S. imperialists and which is being implemented by the puppets, is political and diplomatic trickery to make a breakthrough in seeking cross-contacts and cross-recognition and legalizing two Koreas in the international community through the penetration of the socialist countries and through their recognition of South Korea as a sovereign independent state.

The division of Korea and the existence of the danger of a war on the Korean peninsula is precisely due to the U.S. imperialists' occupation of South Korea and their policy of aggression.

With the aggressive forces of the imperialists remaining in half of the country and with the puppets actively following their policy of aggression, how on earth can tranquility and stability be achieved and peace be established?

The U.S. imperialists' occupation of South Korea is the major factor obstructing the unity and reunification of our nation and threatening peace. Accordingly, with the aggressive forces of the U.S. imperialists in South Korea, it is useless to talk about peace.

If the U.S. imperialists continue to remain in South Korea and continue to maintain the division, peace on the Korean peninsula can never be achieved, regardless of the passage of time, but distrust and confrontation will deepen between the North and South and the danger of a war will grow further. At the same time, this will continue to gravely threaten the peace of the Asia-Pacific region.

The gibberish of the internal and external divisionists that the creation of two Koreas will establish peace on the Korean peninsula is an absurdity designed to justify the criminal scheme to perpetuate the division of Korea.

To achieve peace and stability on the Korean peninsula, the aggressive forces of the U.S. imperialists and their nuclear weapons must be withdrawn from South Korea and the armed forces of the North and South must be reduced.

The four peace-guaranteeing principles and all-inclusive new peace proposals recently put forth at the joint meeting of the DPRK Central People's Committee, the SPA Standing Committee, and the State Administration Council, the contents of which are the pursuit of reunification, the withdrawal of foreign forces, the disarmament of the North and South, and negotiations among the concerned parties, are the most adequate and just epochal proposal for establishing true peace on the Korean peninsula and reliably providing preconditions for independent and peaceful reunification.

The peace called for by our nation is not a peace to perpetuate the division of the country as two Koreas. Such peace is not true peace but will only produce confrontation and clashes. Such hypocritical peace should never be allowed, and the crafty maneuvers of those who (?advocate) such peace should never be tolerated.

The peace called for by our nation is absolutely a peace for the pursuit of reunification, a peace where all people will leave in harmony and tranquility in the reunified fatherland without foreign aggressors.

The attempt of the internal and external divisionists and their followers, who try to exploit peace under the facade of establishing it, must be thoroughly opposed.

When the aggressive forces of the U.S. imperialists and their nuclear weapons are withdrawn from South Korea, when disarmament is achieved between the North and South, and when our country is reunified, there will be no threat of southward invasion and no threat of northward invasion on the Korean peninsula and, indeed, a durable and solid peace will be firmly rooted as the whole nation unanimously desires.

Paper Decries U.S. 'War Provocations'
SK1611123288 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1056 GMT 16 Nov 88

[Text] Pyongyang November 16 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today says in a signed article that a durable peace and security in the world require the eradication of the source of war above all from the Korean peninsula which is fraught with the greatest danger of a nuclear war, and to this end, the division of Korea should be terminated and her reunification be achieved. No one can think of world peace and security apart from the termination of national division and the realization of peace and peaceful reunification of Korea, says the article.

Noting that in particular, the U.S. imperialists' manoeuvres for the provocation of a new war in Korea are a dangerous threat not only to peace in Korea but also to peace in Asia and the rest of the world, it goes on:

Today the U.S. imperialists are trying to make the nuclear war provocation in Korea a fait accompli and stepping up preparations for it. This proceeds from the attempt to invade not only the northern half of area but also other socialist countries, and furthermore, the whole of Asia using South Korea as a foothold.

If the U.S. imperialists aim at only the northern half of Korea, it would be unnecessary for them to deploy nuclear weapons with such a long range in South Korea and there would be no reason for them to mass large aggression forces in and around the Korean peninsula.

Those countries which are bound by the treaty of shackling and aggressive military alliance with the United States are getting embroiled in its manoeuvres to ignite a war in Korea.

Under such conditions, it is clear that if the U.S. imperialists start an aggressive war against the Korean people, the war will cause a chain explosion in various areas and instantly expand into a global war.

The manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists to provoke a new war in Korea are getting more reckless and their danger has reached Asia and the world.

This situation tells that an immediate solution of the Korean problem is very urgent one for world peace.

It is a pressing issue whose solution brooks no further delay to put an end to the division of Korea and achieve the peaceful reunification of the country both in view of national desire of the Korean people and in view of peace in Asia and the world.

If "two Koreas" are created, peace will not be settled on the Korean peninsula but, on the contrary, tension and the danger of war will increase and, accordingly, greater danger will be posed to world peace. The world people

unanimously want to live in a peaceful world without war. The efforts to terminate Korea's division and realize peace and peaceful reunification of Korea are a link in the struggle to realise this desire of the progressive people and part of the common cause of mankind for ensuring a durable peace and security in the world.

CPRF Denounces No's Crackdown on Students
SK1611122688 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1104 GMT 16 Nov 88

["CPRF Secretariat Denounces No Tae-u Group's White Terrorism"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang November 16 (KCNA)—The Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland in its Information No. 512 November 15 denounced repression by the No Tae-u military fascist clique which has reached a grave stage of late.

According to reports, puppet army paratroopers armed with automatic rifles and puppet combat police raided the Seoul Theological Seminary and the Yongin School of University of Foreign Studies in Kyonggi Province a few days ago and committed assaults upon students and professors, tearing up placards and literature calling for the arrest and punishment of the traitor Chon Tu-hwan and his wife.

Not content with cracking down on students and people with the mobilisation of repressive forces tens of thousands strong by issuing an "A-class emergency alert order", the No Tae-u group even sent the regular Army into campuses to assault professors and students. This clearly reveals again its intention to cover up the crimes of the traitor Chon Tu-hwan at any cost, the information says, and stresses:

This fact proves that as long as the traitor No Tae-u remains in power, the traitor Chon Tu-hwan can not be brought to trial by the people. Accordingly, in order to arrest and punish the traitor Chon Tu-hwan, the No Tae-u group must be overthrown, first of all.

NODONG SINMUN Praises Nonaligned Movement

SK1611104388 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1018 GMT 16 Nov 88

[Text] Pyongyang November 16 (KCNA)—The Non-aligned Movement [NAM] has come to make a powerful advance with its characteristics clarified and with a correct fighting target as the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song expounded in his report at the meeting celebrating the 40th anniversary of the foundation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that the road of this movement is a road leading to an independent world, notes an article of NODONG SINMUN November 15.

The author of the article says:

Comrade Kim Il-song has taught:

"The Non-aligned Movement is a just international movement which embodies the requirement of the age of chajusong and the people's aspirations."

Global independence accords with the idea of the Non-aligned Movement which regards it as its noble purpose to oppose imperialism, reject all kinds of domination and subjugation and establish the sovereignty of the country and the nation.

Accordingly, the road of this movement cannot be otherwise than a road toward an independent world.

The present situation sets it as an honorable task for the Non-aligned Movement to defend peace from a war, safeguard the national independence and sovereignty of its member nations and achieve common prosperity.

The imperialist reactionaries are doggedly opposing all countries and nations marching along a road toward independence.

The imperialists employ crafty neo-colonialist methods to retake their lost colonies. They nominally recognised the sovereignty of developing countries and offered so-called "aid" to them, thus bringing them under political and economic subjugation and exploiting and plundering them. This has further ruined the national industries of developing countries and impoverished the people, increasing their foreign debts with the passage of times.

The prevailing situation demands that the non-alignment, a progressive movement which advocates chajusong against all manner of domination and subjugation, advance, holding higher the banner of anti-imperialism and independence than ever before. Anti-imperialism and independence is the very banner of struggle which must be held by all countries and nations for the independence of the whole world.

Unity and cooperation should be strengthened in order that the Non-aligned Movement confidently advance along the road of independence and successfully serve to make the whole world independent. It is a source of the invincible strength of the Non-aligned Movement for the NAM countries to strengthen unity and cooperation among them, which is a decisive guarantee for victory in the common cause of anti-imperialism.

When NAM countries unite firmly politically and cooperate closely with each other in the economic domain, it will demonstrate a really great strength.

UN Observer Meets With Perez de Cuellar
*SK1611124888 Pyongyang Domestic Service
in Korean 0800 GMT 16 Nov 88*

[Text] On 11 November, Pak Kil-yon, permanent observer of the DPRK Permanent Observer Mission in the United Nations, met UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

At the meeting, he told him that comprehensive peace measures to promote the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland were discussed and new steps to remove the danger of war on the Korean peninsula and to realize peace were taken at a joint meeting of the DPRK Central People's Committee, the SPA Standing Committee, and the State Administration Council held on 7 November in Pyongyang.

Noting that the recent proposals of the DPRK Government contain very important contents, the UN secretary general said that he would pay close attention to them.

Attending the meeting was the director of the (executive office of the UN secretary general).

South Korea

North-South Parliamentarians Meet at Panmunjom
*SK1711064888 Seoul YONHAP in English
0627 GMT 17 Nov 88*

[Text] Panmunjom, Korea, Nov. 17 (YONHAP)—Delegates from the parliaments of South and North Korea resumed negotiations Thursday to clear the way for the proposed inter-Korean parliamentary talks.

The two sides, who last met on Oct. 14, moved closer to each other's position on the format of the talks but still showed differences on the agenda in their sixth meeting at this truce village in the Demilitarized Zone dividing the Korean peninsula.

South Korea's chief delegate Pak Chun-kyu called on the North to accept his earlier proposal for holding the full-scale talks in three segments—an opening session, a delegates' meeting for discussions on an agreed-upon agenda, and a closing session—with all the members of the two parliaments attending the opening and closing sessions.

Pak proposed that some 20 delegates from each side attend the discussion session.

As for the agenda, Pak revised his earlier proposal to include a "non-aggression declaration" while maintaining his call for a summit between the two Korea's heads of state, and bilateral exchanges and cooperation, including resumption of Red Cross and economic talks.

"It is difficult to resolve by majority rule the pending issues accumulated over the past 40 years of division in a meeting where all the members of the two sides' parliaments attend," Pak said.

"In light of the reality in inter-Korean relations, no one can deny that the most efficient and reasonable way is for a proper number of delegates from each side to discuss and resolve the pending issues," he added.

Pak said he added "declaration" to the non-aggression issue "to encourage the government authorities of the two sides to adopt a non-aggression declaration at an early date."

North Korean chief delegate Chon Kum-chol agreed to full-scale talks in three parts but proposed that 100 delegates from each side take part in the discussion.

Chon also proposed the formation of a joint steering committee for the delegates' meeting with five representatives from each side as members.

Chon, however, repeated his earlier proposal on the agenda saying that "it is reasonable to adopt the issue of announcing a joint declaration of non-aggression. The bilateral exchanges and cooperation issue would cover the South's demand for resumption of stalled talks and other exchanges."

'Considerable Progress' Made

SK1711075088 Seoul YONHAP in English
0740 GMT 17 Nov 88

[Text] Panmunjom, Korea, Nov. 17 (YONHAP)—South and North Korean lawmakers made "considerable progress" Thursday toward an agreement on the format of the proposed inter-Korean parliamentary talks.

However, five delegates from each side, who last met on Oct. 14, still showed differences on the agenda issue in their sixth meeting at this truce village in the demilitarized zone dividing the two countries.

The two sides agreed to meet again on Dec. 15 to continue to iron out their differences.

In the meeting held at the South Korean building in the truce area, the two sides agreed to hold full-scale talks in three parts—an opening session, delegates' talks, and a closing session—as the South Korean delegation proposed in the last meeting.

The two sides also agreed that 50 delegates from each side will take part in the main round of talks to be held alternately in Seoul and Pyongyang and that a joint statement of agreement will be adopted in the closing session.

The two sides agreed that the joint statement of agreement will be worked out by an executive committee consisting of five or so delegates from each side, including speakers and political party representatives, and that the agreement will be approved by a unanimous decision.

Both sides had agreed earlier that all members of the two Koreas' parliaments will attend the opening session to be held in Pyongyang.

The two sides, however, failed to narrow their differences on what format the main round of talks will follow with the South demanding bilateral talks with chief delegates to head each side while the North continued to favor a joint meeting of delegates without chief delegates. As for the agenda of the full-scale talks, the South Korean lawmakers called for a joint resolution urging the government authorities of the two sides to announce a joint declaration on non-aggression.

North Korean delegates, however, maintained their earlier proposal calling for an announcement of a non-aggression declaration at the parliamentary talks. The two sides also showed differences on other agenda items as the North rejected South Korea's demand for including the issue of resuming the stalled Red Cross and economic talks and that of holding a summit between South Korean President No Tae-u and North Korean leader Kim Il-song.

South Korea's chief delegate Pak Chun-kyu said he added "declaration" to the non-aggression issue "to encourage the government authorities of the two sides to adopt a non-aggression declaration at an early date."

North Korean chief delegate Chon Kum-chol repeated his earlier agenda proposal saying that "it is reasonable to adopt the issue of announcing a joint declaration on non-aggression. The discussion on bilateral exchanges and the cooperation issue would cover the South's demand for resumption of stalled talks and other exchanges."

Pak said after the meeting that "it was considerable progress for the North to change its position from majority rule to a consensus system for the talks and to propose that the main round of talks confirm the agreements of the executive committee."

"I hope that the two sides will reach a package agreement on the format and agenda of the full-scale talks," he added.

Police Battle Protesters Near U.S. Embassy

SK1711121588 Seoul YONHAP in English
1210 GMT 17 Nov 88

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 17 (YONHAP)—Riot police battled Thursday with 7,000 farmers and other protesters who attempted to break into the U.S. Embassy to demand an end to U.S. agricultural imports.

The protesters chanted "resist U.S. farm products," and "expel U.S. imperialists," as they marched on the embassy in central Seoul.

Hundreds of demonstrators hurled rocks and bricks at police, before they were blocked by police firing volleys of tear gas at a point a few hundreds meters from the embassy.

Police had no figures on injuries, but some police officers and protesters were seen being taken away.

The protesting farmers claimed that imports of cheap U.S. foodstuff are threatening their livelihood. They wore headbands saying, "No more U.S. wine. No more U.S. beef."

The demonstrators also denounced the scandal-ridden former President Chon Tu-hwan, demanding he be arrested for alleged corruption and brutal suppression of the 1980 civil uprising in Kwangju.

Man Attempting To Defect To North Arrested
SK1711070288 Seoul YONHAP in English
0659 GMT 17 Nov 88

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 17 (YONHAP)—The Agency for National Security Planning [NSP] South Korea's main intelligence agency, has arrested a man, who allegedly attempted to defect to North Korea via Malaysia, on charges of violating the national security law, the agency announced Thursday.

Kim Sung-hwan, 64, arrested early this month in Malaysia where he has waited since his arrival there on March 19 for approval from North Korea for his planned defection, has been referred to the prosecution for possible indictment, an agency spokesman said.

Kim, a Seoul resident, allegedly provided various information on South Korea to North Korean Ambassador Yi Song-ki during his contact with Yi on 13 occasions.

The divulged information included the situation of Seoul's religious organizations and democratization movements by religious bodies, the situation of South Korean residents in Malaysia and Korean construction firms there, the spokesman said.

Kim, once a church minister in Seoul, allegedly received 2.3 million won (3,300 u.s. dollars) from the North Korean embassy as funds to cover his living expenses in Malaysia.

Kim moved to South Korea from his hometown in North Korea during the 1950-1953 Korean war, leaving his wife and children behind, according to the spokesman.

Investigation of Chon Family Nearly Completed
SK1611051388 Seoul YONHAP in English
0459 GMT 16 Nov 88

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 12 (YONHAP)—The prosecution has virtually completed its 20-day probe into corruption and irregularities allegedly committed by relatives of former President Chon Tu-hwan and his wife Yi Sun-cha, with the arrest of six of their six relatives including Yi Chang-suk, brother of the former first lady, on Tuesday.

Earlier this year, Chon's younger brother Kyong-hwan, former head of the Saemaul (New Village) Movement Organization, was arrested on corruption charges for his alleged involvement in irregularities in the Saemaul Organization, along with his two brothers-in-law, soon after Chon stepped down as president on Feb. 25, bringing to nine the number of Chon family relatives faced with prosecution this year.

Chon Kyong-hwan was later convicted on corruption charges.

The first victim of the recent prosecution investigation was Chon's nephew Kim Yong-to, 53, who allegedly swindled some 41,000 U.S. dollars from a family, one of whose members was arrested on charges of issuing bad checks, saying he would secure the detainee's release. Kim was arrested on Oct. 27.

On Nov. 6, Chon's cousin Sun-hwan, 66, was arrested on charges that he received some 54,000 dollars from a construction firm president who sought government approval to build a golf course and asked Chon Sun-hwan to use his influence on the matter.

On Nov. 12, Chon's elder brother Ki-hwan, 59, and another cousin U-hwan, 55, were arrested on charges of embezzling a company's funds and fraud, respectively.

On Nov. 13, Hong Sun-tu, 47, husband of Yi Sun-cha's sister, was detained on charges of receiving some 0.46 million dollars from domestic air cargo companies in return for his alleged influence peddling with tax authorities in 1984 so that the companies did not have to pay a huge amount of taxes.

A string of arraignments was completed with the arrest on Wednesday of Yi Chang-suk, 37, the former first lady's only brother, on charges of embezzling some 1.6 million dollars from the official funds of his steel pipe manufacturing company.

The prosecution also plans to investigate other irregularities allegedly perpetrated by key figures of Chon's Fifth Republic which ended in February.

A prosecution spokesman said future probes would focus on the alleged abuse of power during the previous republic, adding that some confidants of former President Chon will face prosecution.

The prosecution is expected soon to summon Son Chinkon, a senior judge, who served as Chon's secretary for civilian affairs, to investigate whether Son pressured the Seoul city government to further the interests of Chon Ki-hwan, Chon Tu-hwan's elder brother, so that Chon Ki-hwan could obtain ownership of Seoul's Noryangjin fishing market from its proprietor.

Son also reportedly pressured the Audit and Inspection Board, the government's auditing authority, for the benefit of Ki-hwan.

Despite the successive arrests of some of Chon's relatives, public opinion is mounting against the prosecution for, what some say, moving too hastily against the Chon relatives' suspected wrongdoing and irregularities and for being content with their arrest, without fully probing to determine if they were involved in other misdeeds.

The prosecution is also facing public censure for the investigation occurring so late that some people, suspected of connection with the relatives' alleged wrongdoing, may have fled the country.

Some lawyers have criticized the prosecution, claiming it was a "helping hand" for Chon's dictatorial republic.

The lawyers, in a statement issued Wednesday, said the leadership of the prosecution must be replaced to guarantee that past abuses are handled in a clear-cut and proper manner.

No, Chon Unable to Agree on Meeting
SK1611135488 Seoul YONHAP in English
0958 GMT 16 Nov 88

["News Analysis" by Kim Chang-hoe]

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 16 (YONHAP)—Expectations for a possible breakthrough in the grueling controversy over scandal-plagued former President Chon Tu-hwan have turned overnight into worries over possible political turmoil.

In what seems to be the climax of an in-house "power game" between the old and new leadership of the ruling camp, which surfaced with the arrest in March of Chon's younger brother on corruption charges, last-ditch efforts of the two sides to settle the troubling controversy through a meeting between President No Tae-u and his predecessor have gone awry.

At the end of what was probably the longest day in his nine-month presidency Tuesday, the day after his return from a 12-day tour of four Asia-Pacific countries, No expressed his intention to meet with Chon triggering speculation that the meeting would take place as early as Wednesday.

Emerging from night-long and behind-the-scenes negotiations, however, both sides said the No-Chon meeting will be hard to realize unless they narrow the "striking differences" revealed in the overnight working-level contacts.

The two sides will give up seeking a mutual agreement and try to settle the controversy separately if no more progress is made in the negotiations to be continued Wednesday, both sides said.

"There is no prospect for ironing out differences with Chon's side," a senior official of No's side said, indicating that the projected No-Chon meeting has been virtually aborted.

No's presidential office had proposed that the No-Chon meeting take place Wednesday at the presidential office and offered a set of measures to settle the controversy including Chon's apology for the corruption allegedly involving him and his relatives, the return of his wealth accumulated allegedly illegally to the nation, and his departure from Seoul into seclusion.

The source in the presidential office criticized the Chon side for being "interested only in No's guarantee on the security of Chon without showing any flexibility on the projected apology and return of wealth which are the real concern of the people."

The source added that No had hoped to meet with Chon "to narrow the differences between them in understanding the present situation but not to strike a deal to resolve Chon's problem."

The source even hinted the possibility of judicial action toward Chon's situation saying that "at the present moment, the president cannot guarantee anything. It is a matter to be judged by the people."

"What is left now for Chon to do is to make a decision on his own and offer an apology at a level acceptable to the people," he added.

Meanwhile, a close aide to the former president expressed doubt on the sincerity of No's side by denouncing the presidential office for having "played a media game without offering any proposal or sending a messenger."

"We received no signal for the meeting either from the presidential office or the ruling party since President No returned home," he said, adding that there has been only a tacit agreement for the meeting reached through an "extremely unofficial" channel.

Also, the aide complained bitterly of the formula proposed by the presidential office.

The aide said the presidential office demanded that Chon return the remainder of the political funds he raised while in office and the private wealth which he is suspected of amassing illicitly and make an apology to the people.

However, the aide said the demand could not be met because Chon has amassed no private fortune, adding that Chon has no intention to leave Seoul either.

"Thus, Chon is in no position but to disclose the flow of political funds under his government in detail. Chon is willing to respond to an objective investigation of his wealth such as by a joint team of the ruling and opposition parties," he said.

Chon is likely to issue a statement on his own as early as Thursday to offer an apology for his misrule and the alleged corruption involving his relatives and to reveal the flow of political funds under his government.

Since stepping down in February, Chon has come under public fire for corruption and irregularities allegedly involving himself, his relatives and associates. Chon has demanded a meeting with No since early this month when the prosecution began arresting his relatives for alleged involvement in the corruption.

So far, nine of Chon's relatives have been put under arrest and a number of other relatives and associates are under investigation by the prosecution.

This week, Chon's father-like elder brother, Ki-hwan, was arrested on embezzlement charges and Yi Chang-sok, the only brother of his wife Yi Sun-cha, was arrested on embezzlement and tax evasion charges.

However, faced with a reluctant attitude on the part of the No government which cites the possibility of a No-Chon meeting inviting unnecessary misunderstanding, Chon, the 40-year friend and military academy classmate of No, who is widely believed to have played a kingmaker's role for No, has threatened to disclose the flow of political funds under his government and other untold stories behind the birth of the No government.

Chon is known to have raised the equivalent of billions of U.S. dollars in political funds during his seven-year tenure, which included 140 billion won (200 million dollars) he raised as Saemaul (New Community) Movement funds; and 100 billion won raised as funds for the controversial Ilhae Foundation which he founded and the Saesedae (New Generation) Children's and Heart Foundations established by his wife Yi Sun-cha.

Chon also spent 250 billion won (360 million dollars) for the operation of the ruling Democratic Justice Party and hundreds of billions more to finance various election campaigns of his party, sources said.

Chon reportedly used the money to help the ruling Democratic Justice Party win the presidential election last year and remain as the largest political party, in terms of National Assembly seats, in the parliamentary elections this spring, as well as to support opposition parties.

A close aide to Chon warned that the list of the political funds, if disclosed, will deliver a fatal blow to the present "fragile" political structure.

Aborted by 'Personal Grudges'
SK1711003688 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 17 Nov 88 p 2

["News Analysis" columns by staff reporter Kang Song-chol: "Bid To Solve Chon Problem Derailed By Factional Dispute"]

[Text] Personal grudges and divergent views have scuttled plans for a meeting between President No Tae-u and Chon Tu-hwan.

The ruling camp has now hit a major snag in its efforts for an early resolution of the Chon problem.

A chasm has opened between the two sides over what measures Chon should take, especially over his surrender of wealth and exile in the provinces.

As significant as the differences in views are the ill-feelings No and Chon have come to harbor against each other over the handling of Fifth Republic irregularities.

The ex-president is said to have been enraged at the arrest of his elder brother, Ki-hwan, and his brother-in-law, Yi Chang-sok, on corruption charges.

Relations between the incumbent and the former presidents, close friends since their Korea Military Academy years in the 1950s, have deteriorated to such an extent as to generate fears of a full-scale confrontation between the new and old forces in the ruling camp.

Each side offers a different version on whether any behind-the-scenes agreement has been reached on the steps Chon should take.

Chongwadae is insisting that Chon has consented to give up his fortune and retire to the provinces, but Chon's aides adamantly deny any such agreement.

The Yonhui-dong side (Yonhui-dong is the name of the area where Chon lives) has responded hysterically to the expression "retreat to hometown," which they fear conjures up images of the treacherous subjects who were expelled by the king from Seoul in the olden times.

Following are the arguments each side makes on the key questions of surrender of property and retirement to the provinces:

—The Chongwadae side insists that the former president should return all his fortune in order to calm public furor over the corruption allegedly committed by his family.

Mere suggestion of investigation into Chon's property would not satisfy the people, especially at a time when the opposition is talking about an enormous amount of money used by Chon as political funds, Chongwadae officials say.

They say they do not exactly know how much property Chon possesses.

Chon's aides flatly deny that the former president's fortune runs into the hundreds of billions of won, as alleged by opposition politicians.

Maintaining that awkward handling of the "sensitive issue" may only backfire, the Yonhui-dong side is demanding a joint probe by the ruling party and the opposition to determine how much money Chon has.

They are complaining that Chongwadae is asking Chon to return more money than he actually has.

—Officials in the ruling party and the government generally agree that Chon should leave Seoul for any other place.

They claim that if Chon remains in Seoul it will give the impression that he is unjustifiably holding out against public opinion.

Some suggest that Chon "take a rest," traveling around the country for about a year.

Chon, however, is said to have dismissed the idea of leaving Seoul as "unworthy of discussion."

His aides say the ex-president is also adamant in opposing the idea of seeking political asylum abroad.

Chon also cites personal safety in opposing the suggestion that he leave his present home for retirement in the provinces.

Chon Tu-hwan To Issue Statement 'Next Week'
SK1711032588 Seoul YONHAP in English
0314 GMT 17 Nov 88

[By Hong Sang-pyo]

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 17 (YONHAP)—Former President Chon Tu-hwan is expected to issue a statement early next week, possibly Monday, offering an explanation and apology for misdeeds and abuse of power during his administration as a meeting with his successor No Tae-u has virtually been aborted, an informed source said Thursday.

Chon, who has been under strong public pressure to take immediate action on his alleged misdeeds, originally planned to release the statement Thursday but postponed it until early next week as he needs more time to draft the letter to the people, the source said.

Chon will hold a press conference for the announcement, the source added.

Regarding Chon's projected statement, President No, through behind-the-scenes contacts between Chongwadae (presidential residence) officials and Chon's aides, requested, in addition to Chon's sincere explanation and apology for his alleged wrongdoing, the return of Chon's wealth to the nation and the chuns' departure from Seoul to a rural area to lead a life of seclusion, said the source who declined to be named.

But the two sides have yet to narrow "wide and striking" differences on the return of Chon's private fortune to the state and future seclusion for the Chons, which was the very reason why the statement's release should be delayed, the source said.

Before Chon decided to take action regarding the controversy surrounding him, the former president had lengthy discussions over the telephone with No Tuesday evening, a close aide to No said.

In their telephone talks, No and Chon basically shared the view that the Chon issue should be settled smoothly and in respect of public opinion, while correcting the misunderstanding between them on handling the matter, the aide said.

Chon seemed to explain to No the overall contents of his prospective statement, the aide said.

But Chon, according to the aide, will issue the statement without advance discussions with the No side, a strong signal that Chon might reject requests from No for the return of his wealth and departure to the countryside.

Political sources said Chon had almost agreed to No's formula for the speedy settlement of the issue but that the former president, angered by the arrests of his elder brother Chon Ki-hwan and brother-in-law Yi Chang-sok on embezzlement charges, suddenly changed his attitude.

Chon, however, is not expected to issue a "bombshell statement" containing the "inside story" of his republic, including the flow of controversial political funds, the source said.

"There will be no slanderous words or so-called bombshell declaration in the statement," said a close aide to Chon.

But another source said he could not rule out the possibility that Chon will act unilaterally to debunk rumors regarding his republic, which the source said could deal a severe blow to the incumbent president.

Chon has reportedly asserted that he cannot help revealing in detail how he raised the political funds and for what purpose he used the funds because the people would not believe what he said, even though he has said he has no illicitly amassed fortune.

An aide to Chon said Chon's projected statement may include his explanation of the 1980 Kwangju uprising, the samchong re-education program, the massive purge of public servants in 1980, the forced merger and closure of media organizations in 1980 and massive financial scandals which occurred during his presidency.

Chon will make public a detailed listing of his private fortune and has expressed a willingness to return to the state the portion of his wealth above that registered in 1983 in accordance with the civil servant ethics law, the aide said.

Chon is also expected to request the government of President No to investigate objectively his wealth to determine whether he amassed a fortune illicitly through abuse of power while in office.

Political analysts said that if Chon's statement falls short of popular expectations, the public pressure on the government to take legal action against the Chons could mount.

In this context, a source close to No suggested that Chon, should he fail to calm the public outcries against him through his projected statement, might face prosecution. "It is natural for the government to resolve the Chon case in case Chon, despite his explanation and apology to the people, himself fails to settle the issue," the source said.

Kim Chong-pil Calls for No-Chon Meeting
SK1711011088 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 17 Nov 88 p 2

[From the "Out and About" column: "Decisive Talks"]

[Text] NDRP president Kim Chong-pil reiterated his position calling for meetings between President No Tae-u and his predecessor Chon Tu-hwan even after he heard the news that the meeting had been aborted.

He said his party has advised the government and the ruling party with sincerity hoping for a prompt solution to the current political confusion caused by the Chon issue.

However, both the government and the ruling party have done nothing in particular in spite of the abundant rumors and allegations about their roles, Kim claimed.

The NDRP president demanded President No take judicial and administrative measures against Chon soon but refused to discuss the measures in detail.

Spokesman Cho Yong-chik later said Kim did not mean that Chon should be arrested. He was talking about Chon's relatives, Cho said.

DJP To Conduct Party Reshuffle 'Next Month'
SK1711010488 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES
in English 17 Nov 88 p 2

[Text] The Democratic Justice Party will conduct a sweeping reform in all sectors of the party including its platform, policy programs and organizational structure next month in a bid to create a fresh atmosphere "commensurate with the democratic orientation of the new government," senior party sources said yesterday.

The reform is designed to cut off visible and invisible connections with the DJP's unpopular founder and ex-president Chon Tu-hwan and create a No Tae-u organization," party sources revealed.

Top executives of the ruling party decided yesterday to form a commission to work out plans for that purpose early next month.

The reform commission, to be headed by a civilian who has no close affiliation with the DJP, will focus its study on how to rebuild the government party's image and restore popularity.

The commission's recommendations will be immediately adopted in a revision of the party charter, platform and policies followed by a reshuffling of party posts, the sources said.

Key post-holders are expected to be replaced in the reshuffle as they have been judged to be ineffective in countering their counterparts of the opposition parties which have obtained a stable working majority in the parliament.

The party reshuffle will commence simultaneously along with a shakeup of the Cabinet, around the middle of next month, shortly after the close of the ongoing Assembly session on Dec. 18, according to party sources.

There is also a possibility that the party and Cabinet reshuffles would be made earlier than the tentative original schedule in case controversy over Chon's scandal rapidly worsens.

One source said, "President No is also likely to use the reshuffles as leverage to assuage public antagonism over the previous government instantly following the former president's apology of his wrongdoings, along with a package of reconciliation measures."

Any way, he said, figures related with the old Chon administration will be expelled from the party and the Cabinet, which points at six top ministers retained by No in his inaugural lineup. They are Deputy Prime Minister-Economic Planning Minister Na Ung-pae, Foreign Minister Sakong Il [title as received], Justice Minister Chong Hae-chang, Defense Minister O Cha-pok and Construction Minister Choe Tong-sop.

In the party lineup, Chairman Yun Kil-chung is also facing the possibility of being replaced and Secretary General Pak Chun-pyong may lose his job for involvement in the military suppression of the Kwangju civil uprising in May 1980.

Rumors have it that No's in-law Kim Pok-tong or Korea Military Academy classmate Chong Ho-yong may be appointed party chairman and have full responsibility in leading the party. Yet, the rumors seem groundless in that No has stressed that he will not appoint may relatives to public positions.

One intriguing alternative is the election of vice presidents in a vote of party delegates in which the top vote-getter will be automatically named senior vice president, the top seat next to party President No, and in all possibility standard-bearer of the ruling party in the 1993 presidential election, sources said.

Officials Disagree on Handling of Chon Issue
SK1711011488 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 17 Nov 88 p 2

[From the "Out and About" column: Aborted Meeting]

[Text] Ruling party officials have admitted that the issue of former President Chon Tu-hwan is no longer a matter that can be handled by the party.

"We already tossed the ball to Chongwadae. Now we have no other choice but to watch what happens between the president and his predecessor," said a high-ranking party official.

Commenting on the report of the aborted meeting between No and Chon, he said the plan to settle the Chon issue by this weekend was unreasonable from the start considering nothing had been discussed in detail, including how to handle Chon's property, at that time.

"They hurried because they wanted to settle it before parliamentary hearings on the Kwangju incident this weekend," said the official.

He also expressed concern over the possibility of "emotional" confrontations between No and Chon in the future which he said would finally lead the situation to an impasse.

Meanwhile, another group of officials expressed dissatisfaction with the party's decision to leave the Chon problem to Chongwadae.

"They say that they left it to the president. But it is not true. The party was removed from the ground, in fact. This was partly due to several party officials like Yun Kil-chung, Chong Ho-yong and Kwon Ik-hyon," one official said.

He said the three only tried to make good impressions on the people by emphasizing their own image and role. But they did not understand the situation very well, the official said.

Dissident Groups Respond to Chon Issue

Call for Protest Rallies
SK1511091088 Seoul YONHAP in English
0824 GMT 16 Nov 88

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 16 (YONHAP)—South Korean dissident groups vowed Wednesday to stage popular rallies nationwide Saturday calling for the punishment of former President Chon Tu-hwan and his wife.

The rallies are to be held Saturday afternoon in Seoul and 18 provincial cities, said the statement issued by the headquarters of the campaign to demand the arrest of the Chon couple.

"People will not tolerate the trick of the government to settle the Chon issue with his superficial apology, his return to the countryside, or long-term stay in a foreign country," said the statement.

Saturday's planned rallies, if materialized, will mark the second time dissident groups have resorted to massive demonstrations demanding Chon's arrest. In a previous protest on Nov. 5, tens of thousands of students and citizens battled with police in Seoul and nine major cities across the nation.

Chon was allegedly involved in the bloody suppression of the 1980 civil uprising in Kwangju, and is suspected of involvement in numerous corruption scandals during his rule.

Spearheaded by the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, a civil rights leader, dissidents in Seoul plan to stage a street demonstration, marching to Chon's residence.

Dissident groups have also urged the public to display ribbons saying 'Arrest Chon Tu-hwan,' wave handkerchiefs, honk car horns, and ring bells in churches and temples during the nationwide protest.

Kim Tae-chung Urges Apology

SK1711005488 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES
in English 17 Nov 88 p 2

[Text] Kim Tae-chung warned yesterday that a lukewarm apology by ex-President Chon Tu-hwan for his misdeeds will cause serious political tension.

He said Chon should reveal in full detail how he collected and used political funds. He should also clarify his role in the bloody military suppression of the civilian uprising in 1980 in Kwangju when he makes a public apology to the people.

The president of the Party for Peace and Democracy said that the full picture of the irregularities of the past regime will not be made known without Chon's revelation of the source of all political fund and their recipients.

Kim said all things will return to the zero point if Chon tries to distort or hide the truth in his scheduled public explanation and apology.

Until Chon makes an apology, Kim said, "we will take wait and see attitude."

He criticized President No Tae-u for being slow in the implementation of democratic steps such as the release of political prisoners, the revision and abolition of "evil laws" as well as labor laws. He noted a commitment to the full-scale implementation of the local autonomy system must be made by the chief executive.

RDP Issues Warning

SK1711010888 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES
in English 17 Nov 88 p 8

[Text] The opposition Reunification Democratic Party warned yesterday against possible bargaining between ex-President Chon Tu-hwan and President No Tae-u over the problem of the former head of state publicly accused of corruption.

RDP spokesman So Chon-won told reporters after a meeting of vice presidents that there are signs that the former and incumbent presidents may try to gloss over the situation through their "political bargaining."

"Such attempts would only aggravate the situation rather than solve the matter and this would force them to face a more serious challenge from the people," said the RDP spokesman.

The RDP spokesman issued the warning against Chon and No yesterday morning hours before the report that the projected meeting between the two was foiled due to sharp differences over the details on settling the Chon Tu-hwan problem.

RDP president Kim Yong-sam who presided over the meeting said, "The former and incumbent presidents should make public the real truth of Fifth Republic irregularities including the collection and distribution by Chon of political funds. Otherwise, the people will not tolerate their behavior."

Spokesman So said that ex-president Chon should appear before the Assembly hearings and testify on the bloody suppression of the 1980 Kwangju Uprising and Fifth Republic irregularities.

The RDP and other opposition parties are taking a wait-and-see attitude before pushing for legal charges against the ex-president for misdeeds during his seven year rule.

Burma

Council Confirms Current Foreign Policy Lines

BK1611143088 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 16 Nov 88

[Excerpt] The Information Committee of the State Law and Order Restoration Council held the 12th news conference for local and foreign newsmen at the reception room of the Ministry of Defense at 1400 today. The news conference was attended by the director and editors in chief of the News and Periodicals Corporation; the BBC, VOA, AP, UPI, REUTER, AFP, TASS, XINHUA, ANTARA, YOMIURI SHIMBUN, and NEWSWEEK correspondents; Ko Hla Aung, 29, student in Master of Arts qualifying class and tutor in philosophy at the Rangoon University; Maung Zarni Tun, 22, a matriculation student of No 3 South Okkalapa High School; Maung Min Thein, 23, student of 3d year botany class at Rangoon University; and Maung Thein Htay, 25, student of 3d year physics class at Rangoon University, all of whom had returned from the KNU [Karen National Union] insurgent camp at the border; and the parents of these students.

At the news conference, officials of the Information Committee explained the foreign policy of the Union of Burma Government and the extension of the deadline for the return of students, while Ko Hla Aung reported his experience at the KNU's Thay Baw Bo camp to local and foreign newsmen.

Explaining the foreign policy of the Government of the Union of Burma, the officials said: In recent days it has been suggested by some foreign broadcasting stations and by some people who are close to us that the National Democratic Front, NDF, formed by the insurgent groups at the border, has been joined by some exiles and the fleeing students, and that they have drawn up a strategy to carry out antigovernment activities. It was suggested that because such a move can affect the foreign policy of Burma, the Union of Burma Government may change its policy. VOA news reports this morning also suggested a similar theme.

What we would like to clarify here is that the foreign policy of Burma will not change, and that the country will continue to have friendly relations with neighboring countries on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence. If any untoward incidents do arise, we shall be pursuing diplomatic and other means as necessary.

Regarding the extension of the deadline for the returning students, the officers said: Originally it was decided that the students would be received at welcoming camps between 17 October and 18 November 1988. However, since the true stand of the Defense Forces has been made known to the students through the airdropping of pamphlets, through traders, and other means, students have been returning continuously. Hence, to enable the

remaining students to return, the welcoming camps for the students will remain open until 31 December—an extension of the deadline by 1 month and 13 days.

The State Law and Order Restoration Council had decided to extend the deadline with the aim of making the parents as well as the students happy. However, this will be the last time that the State Law and Order Restoration Council takes such a move.

The Information Committee then introduced the returning students individually to the correspondents, and Ko Hla Aung, who returned to the Myawadi reception camp on 6 November, explained his experiences. [passage omitted]

Bangladesh Ambassador Calls on Trade Minister

BK1511164388 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 15 Nov 88

[Text] Mr A.Z.M. Enayetullah Khan, Bangladesh ambassador to Burma, called on Colonel Abel, minister of trade, at the Ministry of Trade at 1400 today. During the meeting, intimate and friendly talks were held on the promotion of trade between Burma and Bangladesh, including border trade, as well as cooperation in the economic and technical fields.

Political Parties Continue To Register

Peasants Party Registers

BK1511090888 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 14 Nov 88

[Text] The Peasants Party, Burma, which has its headquarters at No 84, Hume Road, Sanchaung Township, Rangoon Division, has been permitted to register as of 11 November in accordance with Section 5A of the Political Parties Registration Law. This was announced in Announcement No 128 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections.

The Peasants Party, Burma has been formed with the following Central Executive Committee:

Chairman: U Kyaw Thaung, former executive committee member of the Antifascist People's Freedom League, member of the Independence Roll of Honor Grade 1;

Vice Chairman: U Kyaw Thein;

General Secretary: U Kyaw Nyunt;

Joint General Secretary-1: U Nyunt Swe;

Joint General Secretary-2: U Maung Maung Myo win, B.Sc. mathematics;

Members: U Khin Kyi of Wakema; U Shein Aung, award winning actor and director; U Thein Tun, alias Awba; U Kyaw; U Tint Swe of Ma-ubin; U Chit Swe; and U Than Maung.

United Democratic Front

*BK1511102188 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 14 Nov 83*

[Text] The United Democratic Front, which has its headquarters at No 121, Second Floor, 38th Street, Kyauktada Township, Rangoon Division, has been permitted to register as of 11 November in accordance with Section 5A of the Political Parties Registration Law. This was announced in Announcement No 127 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections.

The United Democratic Front has been formed with the following Central Executive Committee:

Chairman: U Aung Khin;
Vice Chairman: U Thaung Tin;
Vice Chairman: U Shein Myint;
General Secretary: U Myo Nyunt;
Joint General Secretary-1: U Mya Win, alias U Mya Aye;
Joint General Secretary-2: U Myint Thein;
Secretary-1: U Maung Maung Aye;
Secretary-2: U Mya Kywe;
Secretary-3: U Thein Aye;
Secretary-4: U Tun Aung;
Secretary-5: U Pyi Aung Lin;
Members: U Aung Tun of Yenangyaung; U Nyunt Win Tin; U Din Gah; and U Saw Sai Aung.

Shan Students Peace League

*BK1511103388 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 14 Nov 88*

[Text] The League for Peace of All Shan State Youths and Students, which has its headquarters at No 162 Yehtwet-u Street, Kanshe Ward, Taunggyi, Shan State, has been permitted to register as of 11 November in accordance with Section 5A of the Political Parties Registration Law. This was announced in Announcement No 130 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections.

The League for Peace of All Shan State Youths and Students has been formed with the following Central Executive Committee:

Chairman: U Kyaw Kyaw Lin, 3d-year chemistry, Taunggyi Degree College;
Vice Chairman: U Sai Aung Myint, 4th-year law, University of Rangoon;
Vice Chairman: U Naing Win, 4th-year physics, University of Mandalay;
General Secretary: U Sai Naw Wan, 4th-year physics, University of Mandalay;
Secretary: U Kyaw Kyaw Khaing, 2d-year agriculture, Agriculture Institute;
Secretary: U Than Win, 4th-year philosophy, University of Rangoon;
Secretary: U Nyi Nyi Moe;

Members: Daw Myint Sanda Htwe, 3d-year physics, Taunggyi Degree College; Daw Khin Thida Moe, 4th-year Institute of Economics; Daw Tin Tin Mya, 1st-year Botany honor class, University of Mandalay; U Min Kyi, 2d year history, Taunggyi Degree College; U Kyaw Kyaw, 4th-year physics, University of Rangoon; U Myint Maw, 4th-year chemistry, Taunggyi Degree College; U Sai Min Tun, 3d-year philosophy, University of Rangoon; Daw Nan Nu Nu Win, 4th-year chemistry, Taunggyi Degree College; U Sai Hla Win; U Min Thura Tun, 2d-year Institute of Technology; U Zaw Myint U, 2d-year botany, Taunggyi Degree College; U Than Htay Aung, 3d-year botany, Taunggyi Degree College; Daw Thuza Naing, 3d-year Burmese, University of Rangoon; U Sai Thiha, 4th-year mathematics, University of Mandalay; U Sai Sai Wan, 5th-year veterinary, Yezin Institute; U Khun Po Lwin, 4th-year Institute of Economics; and U Than Aung Htwe, 2d-year English, University of Rangoon.

Labor Party Registers

*BK1511104988 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 14 Nov 88*

[Text] The Labor Party, Burma, which has its headquarters at No 84 Hume Road, Sanchaung Township, Rangoon Division, has been permitted to register as of 11 November in accordance with Section 5A of the Political Parties Registration Law. This was announced in Announcement No 129 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections.

The Labor Party, Burma has been formed with the following Central Executive Committee:

Chairman: U U Tun, B.A., B.S George Washington University, Georgetown University, former executive member of Trade Union Congress Burma [TUCB];
Vice Chairman-1: U Aung Myint, former executive member of TUCB;
Vice Chairman-2: U Kyaw Thaung, former executive member of TUCB, member of Independence Roll of Honor, Grade 1;
Vice Chairman-3: U Tin Myint, former district labor leader;
General Secretary: U Ba U, former labor leader of Rangoon District;
Joint General Secretary-1: U Chit Tin, former labor leader of Rangoon District;
Joint General Secretary-2: U Myint Swe, former labor leader of Rangoon District;
Members: U Ba Than, B.A., B.L. advocate; U Khin Maung Gyi, former area leader of Antifascist People's Freedom League; U Soe Hlaing; U Tun Tin, retired senior accounts officer; U Than Maung; U Chit Hlaing; U Maung Maung; U Kyaw Thaung; and U Than Myint.

New Life Party

*BK1611071888 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 15 Nov 88*

[Text] The New Life Party, which has its headquarters at No 29-K, No 1 Bahan Street, Myoma Ward, Bahan Township, Rangoon Division, has been permitted to register as of 11 November 1988 in accordance with Section 5A of the Political Parties Registration Law. This was announced in Announcement No 131 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections.

The New Life Party has been formed with the following Central Executive Committee:

Chairman: U Soe Thein, former township police force officer;
Vice Chairman: U Tun Aung, former police officer;
Vice Chairman: U Tin Myint, Daik-u, B.S. botany;
General Secretary: U Tin Thein;
Secretary-1: Daw Myint Myint Soe Thein, 4th-year English major;
Secretary-2: U Khin Maung Htay;
Members: Daw Tin Kyaing; U Moe Kyaw; U Thein Htut; Daw Thet Thet San, 3d-year botany major; Daw Tin; U Tun Paing; U Than Myint, former member of police strike for independence movement; U Khin Nyunt, retired police force member; U Khin Aye; U Khin Maung Lay; U Tin Tun; Daw Khin San; and U Tin Shwe.

National Politics Front

*BK1611074588 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 16 Nov 88*

[Text] The National Politics Front, which has its headquarters at No 155, corner of Laphetchauk-B Street and 79th Street, Hemanzalal Ward, Mandalay Northeast Township, Mandalay Division, has been permitted to register as of 14 November in accordance with Section 5A of the Political Parties Registration Law. This was announced in Announcement No 132 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections.

The National Politics Front has been formed with the following Central Executive Committee:

Patrons: Daw Phaya Gale; U Aung Di, Central Executive Committee member of National Peace Headquarters and World Peace Congress led by Thakin Kodaw Hmaing; Hantawaddy U Win Tin, retired chief editor of HANTHAWADDY newspaper; Daw Myint Myint Khin, Chief Court advocate; U Htay Win, Mandalay, B.Sc. in Petroleum Production, West Germany; U Ohn Pe, Mandalay, Asian Youth member, joint general secretary of All-Burma Youth Organization; and U Kyaw Win, B. communications;
Chairman: U Zaw Win, chairman of Burma Students Union, Mandalay, 1960-62;

Vice Chairman-1: U Myint Soe alias Naing Myint, Rangoon, B.Sc., M.Sc., diploma in library science;
Vice Chairman-2: Tawwin U Khin Maung Than, Mandalay, B.A. Law, LLB, chief court advocate, Mandalay;
General Secretary-1: U Tint Swe alias Thiha, Rangoon, B.A., M.A.;
General Secretary-2: U Tin Aye Kyu alias Ko Hmaing, lawyer, Mandalay
Joint General Secretary-1: Dr Ne Win, Rangoon, DDS;
Joint General Secretary-2: U Thein Than U, chief court advocate, Mandalay
Members: Dr Maung Maung Thu, MBBS, Mandalay; U Khin Kyi; U Zani Aung, B.E. mathematics, Mandalay; U Tin Htut, diploma in agriculture, Rangoon; Daw Khin Nyein Chan Thu, Nyeinchanye, Mandalay; Daw Khin San Yi, B.A., Burmese, R.L., diplomat in Russian language; Nanshe U Cho Gyi, Mandalay, B.A. Burmese; U Cho Cho Tun Nyein, B.Sc. honors, high grade pleader; U Ohn Myint Hlaing, Mandalay; U Maung Nu alias Latha Maung Nu, Rangoon; U Thein Win, Mandalay, B.Sc. physics; U Khin Hla alias U Sit Hla; U Aung Soe, Mandalay, B.A., high grade pleader, Chief Court advocate; and U Tin Win Naing, Mandalay, BA, high grade pleader, registered lawyer.

Banmauk-Based Farmers Party

*BK1611090688 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 15 Nov 88*

[Text] The Farmers (Gadu Ganan) and Shan National Unity Democratic Headquarters, Banmauk, which has its headquarters at Bogyoke Street, Myoma Ward, Banmauk, Sagaing Division, has been permitted to register as of 15 November in accordance with Section 5A of the Political Parties Registration Law. This was announced in Announcement No 134 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections.

The Farmers (Gadu Ganan) and Shan National Unity Democratic Headquarters, Banmauk, has been formed with the following Central Executive Committee:

Chairman: U Ba Thang;
Vice Chairman-1: U (La Pan-gam);
Vice Chairman-2: U Kyaw Nyunt, Shan representative;
General Secretary: U Min Wai;
Secretary-1: U (Ta Mong), (Ganan) representative;
Secretary-2: U Thang Myint;
Executives: U Tin Shwe-1, peasant; U Chit Ti, peasant; U Tin Shwe-2, peasant; U Tin Ngwe, peasant; U Sein Win, peasant; U Mya Maung, (Gadu) representative; and U Thein Pe, peasant.

Union Progress, Justice Action Party

*BK1611093088 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 15 Nov 88*

[Text] The Union Progress and Justice Action Party, which has its headquarters at No 82, Mingala Street, Sanchaung Township, Rangoon Division, has been permitted to register as of 14 November in accordance with

Section 5A of the Political Parties Registration Law. This was announced in Announcement No 133 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections.

The Union Progress and Justice Action Party has been formed with the following Central Executive Committee:

Patrons: Wunna Kyaw Htin U Chit Maung, B.A., B.L., Rangoon, M.A., Oxon, member of the Independence Roll of Honor, second grade; U Khin Maung, B.Sc., B.L., Rangoon, B.Sc., Glasgow, former director general of the Vocational Education Department; Thiri Pyanchi U Zaw Win Zaw, B.A. Rangoon, member of the Independence Roll of Honor, first grade; and Dr Kyaw Zin, B.Sc. agriculture, Ph. D., Reading, UK, member of the Independence Roll of Honor, second grade, former rector of the Yezin Institute of Agriculture, Pyinmana; Chairman: U Hla Aung, MA, Public Administration, Minnesota, USA, LL.M., Harvard, USA, member of the Independence Roll of Honor, third grade
Vice Chairman-1: U Tin Hlaing, B.Sc., Rangoon, M.A., Columbia University, former professor at Mathematics Department, Rangoon Institute of Technology;
Vice chairman-2: U Chit Ko Ko, B.Sc., M.Sc., agriculture, (E.D.M.), Louisiana, USA, former headmaster, Institute of Agriculture, Thaton, former education commissioner;
Vice chairman-3: U Than Aung, B.Sc., B.L., chief court advocate, former Mandalay University student leader, 1952-55;
General Secretary: U Pe Thein, B.Sc. electrical engineering, M.A.S.E., 1960-62, former divisional electric engineer and principal, Technical Institute, Aung San;
Joint General Secretary-1: U Aung Than Nyunt, B.A., R.L., chief court advocate
Joint General Secretary-2: U Tun Lwin, BA, Law, LLB;
Secretary-1: U Htwe Nyunt, B.A., high grade pleader, chief court advocate;
Secretary-2: U Aye Cho, MA, R.L., chief court advocate, writer, winner of national literary award;
Secretary-3: Daw Aye May, B.Sc., diploma from Japan
Members: U (Sayan), B.Sc., engineering, D.I.C., London; U Lwin, B.A.; U Aung Than, B.A., B.L., former deputy director of the Department of Cooperatives; and U Myint Lwin, B.Sc.

Commission Announces Registration of 131 Parties
BK1511074388 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 14 Nov 88

["Press Release No 75/88 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections, dated 14 November—the 6th day of the waxing moon of Tazaungmon, 1350 Burmese era"]

[Text] As of 11 November 1988, a total of 129 political parties had registered with this commission in accordance with the Political Parties Registration Law. The following political parties were allowed to register today—14 November 1988:

1. National Politics Front, NPF
2. Union Progress and Justice Action Party, UPJAP

Hence, as of today, a total of 131 political parties have registered with this commission under the Political Parties Registration Law.

More Political Parties Issue Aims, Programs

Youth Solidarity Front

BK1511102788 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 14 Nov 88

["Press Release No 74/88 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections, dated 14 November—the 6th day of the waxing moon of Tazaungmon, 1350 Burmese era"]

[Text] 1. The following are extracts of the objectives and future programs of the Youth Solidarity Front, Union of Burma, which has registered with this Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections in accordance with the Political Parties Registration Law, and which has its headquarters at No 12 Kyaukkon Mogaung Pagoda Road, Yankin Township, Rangoon Division.

2. Aims

- A. To establish a democratic, unified, peaceful, and prosperous nation;
- B. To oppose dictatorship;
- C. To build unity among youths of different national groups;
- D. To build unity nationwide among all national groups through a correct political leadership and on the basis of the democratic movement of the people; and
- E. To cooperate with youths internationally for world democratic and peace causes.

3. Programs

- A. To organize youths, young workers, and young peasants of different national groups on the basis of the Burmese student masses so that they will join in the movement;
- B. To constantly study and hold discussions so that democratic principles will take root among the youth masses and help them attain a clearer ideological outlook, better conceptualization, and political maturity;
- C. To hold seminars, publish books and leaflets, and establish libraries at different levels of organization so that youths will gain knowledge and their patriotic and nationalistic spirit will always remain strong and active;
- D. To constantly strive to foster cultured, disciplined, courageous, active, and mature youths;
- E. To pass a national service law so that youths who come of age will have to take military training to defend the nation;
- F. To work to establish a modern, developed, and stable education system;

G. To strongly oppose narcotic drugs, which cause national atrophy and destroy the morals and will of youths;
H. To motivate youths' interest in different sports activities in order to promote their physical fitness and health;
I. To cooperate or to work as a single unit with other youth organizations on all common objectives so as to build unity among the youth masses;
J. To work to ensure that all national peoples fully and equally enjoy democratic rights;
K. To strive to ensure that peasants can freely cultivate and trade according to their wishes;
L. To strive to ensure that workers fully enjoy their rights and benefits;
M. To establish mutual friendly relations with international youth organizations;
N. To participate in the efforts to further peace in the region and the world; and
O. To uphold and embrace the spirit of General Aung San [late national leader] and to guide youths to follow the will and moral conduct of Aung San.

International Friendship Society

*BK1511104⁵88 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 14 Nov 88*

["Press Release No 73/88 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections, dated 14 November—the 6th day of the waxing moon of Tazaungmon, 1350 Burmese era"]

[Text] 1. The following are extracts of the objectives and future programs of the Society for International Friendship, Union of Burma, which has registered with this Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections in accordance with the Political Parties Registration Law, and which has its headquarters at No 58, First Floor, Barr Street, Kyauktada Township, Rangoon Division.

2. Aims

A. To work for the growth and development of democracy based on justice, freedom, and equality;
B. To work for the friendship and fraternity of all national groups that reside within the Union of Burma; and
C. To work for the friendship and fraternity between all the national people in the Union of Burma and the people of all races the world over.

3. Programs

A. To work systematically to get acquainted with the practice of democracy and with the experience and practice of democratic elections;
B. To study and conduct research work about all the national races in the Union of Burma;
C. To arrange excursion tours of areas where the Kachin, Kayah, Karen, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan, and other races reside and to extend invitations for exchanges of visits;

D. To make known to the world the facts pertaining to the Union of Burma and the achievements of its people;
E. To study the facts of nations throughout the world and the achievements of their people and make them known in the country;
F. To establish libraries;
G. To hold talks, discussions, conferences, seminars, forums, and symposiums;
H. To compile and publish books, journals, and research papers; and
I. To stage exhibitions, dance and music shows, poetry recitals, and film shows.

Kayah State All Nationalities

*BK1611074688 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 15 Nov 88*

["Press Release No 77/88 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections, dated 15 November—the 7th day of the waxing moon of Tazaungmon, 1350 Burmese era"]

[Text] 1. The following are the extracts of the objectives and future programs of the Kayah State All Nationalities League for Democracy, which has registered with this Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections in accordance with the Political Parties Registration Law, and which has its headquarters at No 3, Gandayawadi Road, Loikaw Township, Kayah State.

2. Aims

A. To strive for the growth and strengthening of genuine democracy through the unity of all the nationalities in the Union of Burma, including the Kayah nationals;
B. To work for the emergence of a genuine democratic administrative machinery that guarantees basic human rights and is also in accordance with the wishes of the people of all nationalities;
C. To strive for the emergence of a system under which the states shall have the right to freely administer their own affairs;
D. For all the nationalities to strive with unity for the perpetuation of the Union of Burma;
E. To contribute positively to the Union of Burma by striving to the utmost for the equality of all nationalities within the Kayah State in their political, economic, and social rights;
F. To always cooperate with the national democratic forces in Burma for the growth of genuine democracy in the Union of Burma; and
G. To ensure that there is freedom of literature, culture, arts, traditions, customs, and religious belief for Kayah nationals, and to exchange views and opinions with other national people.

3. Programs.

A. To organize the people and to resort to political means to achieve peace in the country;
B. To strive to ensure that full human rights are enjoyed by the people of the Union of Burma;

C. To strive for the right of private ownership over light and heavy industries;
D. To raise the standard of living of the peasantry—a key class for the Union of Burma—in accordance with the practice of democracy; and
E. To train and promote the political knowledge and outlook of youths and students who will be shouldering the burden of a democratic state in the future.
F. To provide free education for students and to send qualified scholars for study tours abroad; and
G. To implement free medical care, both in the preventative and curative fields, and to keep up with the developing health conditions of the world.

National Party

BK1611092288 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 15 Nov 88

["Press Release No 76/88 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections, dated 15 November—the 7th day of the waxing moon of Tazaungmon, 1350 Burmese era"]

[Text] 1. The following are extracts of the objectives and future programs of the National Party, which has registered with this Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections in accordance the Political Parties Registration Law, and which has its headquarters at No 3, 34th Street, Kyauktada Township, Rangoon Division.

2. Aims

A. To ensure the prevalence of law and order and that legal rights are enjoyed equally by all citizens;
B. To work for the realization and preservation of human rights enshrined in the UN Charter;
C. To build, on the basis of a genuine democratic multiparty system, a new society that is free and just;
D. To build peace in the country and unity among all national groups;
E. To strive with might and main to bring the national economy, national education, and national health up to international standards;
F. To provide training to youths so that people who are able to lead the state will emerge; and
G. To strive for the establishment of a new Union of Burma constitution that will fully guarantee democratic rights.

3. Programs

A. To oppose sectarianism, idealism, and personality cultism and to strive for the growth of nationalism in politics;
B. To strive for internal peace through dialogue on the basis of democratic rights;
C. To abolish laws that are tools to oppress the people and to establish a legal system that supports democratic rights;
D. To fully support efforts to bring out the best from individuals and to ensure the right to freely engage in trade;

E. To permit cooperative ventures under genuine principles of cooperatives;
F. To realize economic enterprises through joint investment by the state and foreign interests;
G. To create conditions for home cottage industries to develop;
H. To establish and develop industries that are based on the natural resources of the country;
I. To strive to gain foreign assistance that does not affect the sovereignty of the state;
J. To permit workers to engage in the trade they enjoy and are well versed in;
K. To establish friendly relations with world nations, and to practice a policy that opposes dictatorship and that supports disarmament, the UN Charter, respect for the sovereignty of nations, and upholds the principles of peaceful coexistence; and
L. To contribute to a healthy and happy nation by providing free preventive and curative medical care.

Columnist Comments on 'Black Journalism'

BK1411130088 Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S
DAILY in English 5 Nov pp 6-7; 6 Nov pp 7-8 88

["Black Journalism" by Maung Po Hmat]

[Excerpts] A piece of news is an account of an event presented with all the characteristics of authentic news. It must accurately mention who were involved, where, when, why and how it took place and what happened in the end. A news item which does not mention these facts is an incomplete one or a false one, or a fabricated one or even just a rumour. The five Ws and one H (who, where, when, why, what and how) are criteria of whether a news item is complete and accurate or not. [passage omitted]

Newsmen from capitalist periodicals and broadcasting stations, that are in the habit of speaking highly of journalism, go to a country in a hurry when they are going to interfere in the internal affairs of that country writing about what is going on there. If they do not visit that country, they stay at a neighbouring country and write or broadcast false news and rumours about that country.

During the disturbances of 1988 in Burma over 50 roadside newspapers were published in Rangoon and over 40 were published in Mandalay and not one of them met the characteristics of a genuine newspaper though they may have called themselves newspapers. There was also not even a news item which had the characteristics of a genuine news item. They carried all kinds of rumours, fabricated news and all sorts of articles written in politically abusive language. They all stemmed from a pessimistic approach. Look at the prices they charged. A paper (printed on locally-made paper) which contained only four pages was priced K [Kyat] 2 and one which contained eight pages was priced K 3 or K 4; one which contained 12 pages was priced K 5 and some which contained pages larger

than the ordinary newspaper size were priced K 8 per copy. Some pamphlets of foolscap size which were cyclostyled were priced K 2 or K 3 per copy.

There were also wall-papers and wall-posters the contents of which were copied from BBC and VOA broadcasts and they were once again copied by others on their wall-papers and posters and stuck on walls everywhere. In them and in the roadside newspapers were mentioned horrible news items about beheading of people by others which was committed out of personal hatred or malice or for other reasons and these abominable and horrible crimes were even compared with what took place during the French Revolution. Some made speeches extolling these horrible crimes. They extolled such terrible acts which were only committed by barbarians and the roadside papers even carried photographs of severed heads and beheaded bodies.

Foreigners took photographs of these horrible scenes and even videofilmed them. The beheaders got themselves photographed as if they were great heroes. When these were shown in other countries, the Burmese people were condemned and despised as cruel barbarians and savages who eat human flesh. Some well-known journalists wrote articles to the effect that the beheading took place as it ought to have taken place. Some foreign shipping companies even regarded the Burmese seamen serving with them as dangerous fiends. The Burmese seamen were humiliated. Some were even sent back on one pretext or the other.

The statements by such and such organization carried by the roadside newspapers and wall-papers at that time carried false signatures, false names and false seals. These statements by organizations which used false names were accepted as truth, and copied by newspapers and broadcast by foreign broadcasting stations and this shows that they totally ignore journalistic ethics and have no dignity and are not worthy of being called citizens of big nations. What they wrote and broadcast was not in conformity with the journalistic norms of five Ws and one H, was lacking in confirmation and authenticity. What they write and broadcast as news everyday is just mere rumours and gossips. Some unscrupulous persons posted on walls in various places posters bearing the following: "Don't listen to the Myanma Athan [Burma Broadcasting Service]. Listen only to the BBC and the VOA. The BBC and the VOA broadcast authentic and correct news for Burma. BBC is our hero," extolling the BBC and the VOA and the youths and children who did not know the truth or the correct news suffered. They got misled. Some went underground. What was termed as the struggle for democracy also got distorted.

As the BBC had broadcast that the BCP had captured Mogok, the Information Committee had to hold a press conference with local and foreign journalists and explained the matter giving the facts. The BBC, on its part, did not admit that the news they had broadcast was not true but went so far as to say that they had got that

news from the Rangoon insurgents' quarters. The BBC often boasts that it does not stand for any organization but it stands only for the listeners and I would like to ask if the BBC had protested saying that it would continue to broadcast for the listeners when the British prohibited broadcasting of the BBC interview with the members and supporters of the IRA which is fighting for the independence of Ireland.

The BBC and the VOA had had plans to incite and instigate the people to make disturbances, and given guidance all through the period of disturbances and even now when the disturbances have been over, they continue to interfere in our internal affairs broadcasting rumours and false news. The State has lost thousands of millions of kyats owing to the honey-coated poison spread by the BBC and the VOA as well as by disturbance-makers. Thousands of students and youths have been misled and gone astray. It is found that today the State Law and Order Restoration Council is sincerely and frankly giving to the whole country and the whole world facts and correct and authentic news. In spite of this, the BBC and the VOA have not stopped telling lies. "The Burmese Government, the Military Government, the Tatmadaw [Defense Forces] or the government officials had made such and such statements," their broadcasts said reading out the facts and then they added, "But or however" and then they broadcast false news and comments to incite and instigate the people of Burma to continue to cause disturbances.

"However" is the word the children playing not far from the radio shout in unison as soon as the BBC or the VOA has finished announcing the statement issued by the Burmese Government. Even the children now regard the BBC broadcasts as jokes. Whenever the security units had to shoot at the looters who broke open godowns, destroyed mills and factories and looted goods and properties, the BBC and the VOA termed the looters "unarmed demonstrators." When the number of persons who died was about 100, they announced that over 1,000 were killed. When all the government employees returned to their work on 3 October, they maliciously announced that the employees had returned to work as the military government had declared that those who did not return to work would be sacked and that although they were back at work, they continued to carry on with a sit-in strike without doing any work. That was an outright lie. They were not able to show any evidence for their exaggerating the number of persons who had died and the extent of demonstrations staged and they said they obtained the news from diplomatic quarters. They also announced that such and such diplomats had visited such and such a place on such and such a date and counted the number of the dead and that they had also visited such and such worksites and offices and studied the work but they gave no evidence for all these news items and this shows that they have neither respect nor regard for journalistic ethics.

The destructive elements aboveground and underground and those who interfere in our internal affairs from

outside are still carrying on with their whispering campaign spreading all sorts of rumours. The BBC is openly interfering in our internal affairs.

The students' disturbance of July 1962 was one created and handled by the BCP agents who had come from the jungles and stayed at the Rangoon University. On 7 July that year when the authorities cleared up the students' strike camp, there were some student casualties. Foreign periodicals and broadcasting stations carried news items to the effect that hundreds of students were killed. That was just exaggeration. The destructive elements within the country also spread rumours using various means to instigate the students. Policy Director of the Ministry of Information U Saw Oo, Rangoon University Dean of Students Affairs U San Tun, Rangoon General Hospital Medical Superintendent U Aung Thein, Assistant Director of Police (Crimes) U Set and NEWS AGENCY BURMA Chief Editor Major Soe Myint Win invited local and foreign journalists to the meeting hall of the BBS at 2 pm on 11 July 1962 and explained to them that only 16 died, that 42 were wounded and 24 arrested. They also announced the names and addresses of the dead, the wounded and those arrested. When these were carried by the newspapers, rumours died down.

The "U Thant" disturbances of 1974 were created by destructive elements aboveground and underground and by "political dead tigers". When the authorities cleared up the strike camp on the Rangoon University Campus during December 1974, they had to use only three tear-gas bombs. There was no bloodshed at all. However, local and foreign periodicals and foreign broadcasting stations spread the false news to the effect that over 200 students were bayoneted to death that day and that 5,000 students had gone underground and were then camped with full arms in the vicinity of Donwun near Thaton. The repercussion of that news resulted in five boy students and two girl students from Kayan going underground. They came to know the truth only when they ran into a Tatmadaw column. They had heard that some of their friends had died in Insein Jail and that some had gone underground. They were astonished when they met their friends again.

Foreign periodicals and broadcasting stations and the insurgents aboveground and underground may say that they have Cetana (goodwill) for the welfare of the people of Burma, but those who suffer from the evil effects of what they have done are the people of Burma themselves. There has been a lot of historical evidence for this. Since they have given such training, even ordinary people now know how to spread rumours.

I met a friend who often goes about the city. He said, "The other day I met a friend of mine in the city. He told me that an interim government was going to be formed and that such and such persons had already met such and such persons and the like. Another thing he told me was about the students who returned. He said the youths who had come back from the border area were sent back to

their home but two days later they were taken away for questioning, that they did not come back and that the parents were notified that the youths had died of malaria. I asked him whose sons and daughters they were and on which date they were taken away. I also asked him if he knew their addresses. I told him that if I knew the addresses I could make enquiries. He said that he had heard about it and that he did not exactly know anything about it. Just before we parted, he told me that the students who had gone underground were in good condition in the border areas, that they are getting on well with plenty of food, that they were enjoying their stay there, that they had also got a large number of weapons and other supplies and that they would soon come back and fight. I got irritated and told him that if that was so, he and I should ourselves send his son and my son to the border area. He could not hide his embarrassment and went away without even bidding me farewell."

The students and the people should not continue to be swayed by such false news, rumours and gossip. They should now come to realize that nobody outside the country really loves Burma. In the capitalist world some newspapers carry sensational news and photographs of naked women and the like to increase circulation. That is known as Yellow Journalism.

Today the capitalist mass media such as newspapers, the radio and the television are interfering in the internal affairs of other countries by spreading rumours and instigating people to do this and that. This is now known as Black Journalism. Black Journalism is now at large.

Villagers Said Injured in Mon Insurgent Attack
BK1511163988 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 15 Nov 88

[Text] On the morning of 10 November, about 15 Mon insurgents using an M-79 launcher fired at (Kayshu) village from a hill west of that village in Thanbyuzayat Township. They later entered the village and sprayed it with small arms fire.

Several villagers—Ma Aye Kyi, Daw Yin Thein, Ma Soe Kyi, Ma Than Yi, Aung Thein, and Akyaw—and a novice monk received injuries in the attack by the enemy.

Brunei, Singapore & Malaysia **Malaysia**

Commentary on Establishment of Palestinian State
BK1611130588 Kuala Lumpur International Service
in English 0800 GMT 16 Nov 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Malaysian Government and people conveyed their heartfelt feelings of goodwill and joy to the Palestinians and their leaders on the auspicious occasion of the proclamation of the state of Palestine. In the words of the Malaysian minister for external affairs, this is a historic event.

Malaysia has very steadfastly and consistently supported the Palestinian cause. It has also expressed the view that the key to peace and stability in the West Asia is the establishment of a sovereign Palestine. For over 40 years, the Western powers adopted an ultra conservative policy of ignoring legitimate Arab aspirations and upholding any and every political act of the Tel Aviv regime.

It is only recently with the launching of the heroic [name indistinct] movement by the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza that more segments of the Western society began to see the stark reality. The Tel Aviv regime lost its credibility a long time ago. It should now recognize the inevitable changes in West Asia.

The leader of the PLO, Mr Yasir 'Arafat, has declared the acceptance of the UN Resolution 242. That resolution explicitly mentioned the right of all states in that region to coexist peacefully. Therefore, neither the Tel Aviv regime nor its staunch ally the United States of America can any longer bring up the old excuse for not wanting to negotiate with the PLO. That stale excuse was that the PLO had not accepted the existence or the right to coexistence of the Tel Aviv regime.

The historic declaration of the Palestinian state is therefore going to be seen by the whole world as a test of sincerity of the allies of the Tel Aviv regime. They should not lose any more time, but as [words indistinct] on their friend to agree to come to an international conference on West Asia political issues.

Malaysians are happy that their government extended recognition to the Palestine state within a few hours of the proclamation in the city of Algiers. They are confident that many other countries will do likewise.

The Palestinian people have a territory and a homeland of their own, but unfortunately it is now in enemy's hand. That was also the case with almost the whole of Western Europe during the Second World War. That reality did not prevent recognition of their government under international law as government-in-exile. A large number of members of the UN recognizes the PLO as the sole accepted representative of the Palestinian people. Many, including Malaysia, have provided facilities for the establishment of PLO missions and information centers in their capitals.

Mr Yasir 'Arafat has once more demonstrated his capacity for high statesmanship. He has taken a decisive step and all who value freedom and justice should come forward with moral support as well as different forms of material assistance for the new state. The people of Palestine have endured terrible sufferings and nightmares under the military occupation of the Tel Aviv regime. The world should now decide to do all that is necessary to enable the people to regain their beloved Jerusalem and to build up a modern and (?stable) Palestine.

The Malaysian people regard the Algiers proclamation as the first essential step to speedy nationhood.

Razaleigh Receives Mahathir Letter of Offer
*BK0911154188 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service
in Malay 1430 GMT 9 Nov 88*

[Text] Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah has received Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed's letter, which offers him the post of minister without portfolio. Tengku Razaleigh is reported to have met his supporters and consulted with them on the offer before replying to the letter.

One of his supporters, Datuk Haji Zakaria Abdul Rahman, who is a member of parliament for Besut, quoted Tengku Razaleigh, who was addressing a gathering to mark the birthday of the Prophet Mohamed at Kampung Datuk Selamat in Kuala Lumpur last night, as saying that he would first seek his supporters' views before making any decision.

Razaleigh Declines Offer
*BK1011125388 Kuala Lumpur RTM Television
Network 1 in Malay 1200 GMT 10 Nov 88*

[Text] The people's hope to see Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah join Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir's cabinet for the sake of national unity has been dashed. Following Datuk Musa Hitam's step, Tengku Razaleigh has rejected the prime minister's invitation to join the cabinet as minister without portfolio.

According to Johor Baharu Member of Parliament Datuk Shahrir Samad, Tengku Razaleigh made the decision after consultations with his colleagues in Kuala Lumpur last night Datuk Shahrir announced this in Batu Pahat.

UMNO Delegates Support Mahathir's Economic Policy
*BK2910083288 Kuala Lumpur International Service
in English 0600 GMT 29 Oct 88*

[Text] The General Assembly of UMNO [United Malays National Organization] in Kuala Lumpur this morning debated a motion of thanks to the [UMNO] president for the opening address yesterday. Delegates to the party express full confidence and support for the government in its efforts to revive and strengthen the economy. They pledged to fight any external or internal threats that could hamper these efforts.

The 1,545 delegates also pledged to support the implementation of government policies related industrialization and the adoption of modern technology. The motion called on all UMNO members to set aside personal or regional interests and said the party will continue to uphold democratic principles.

UMNO Assembly Passes Constitution Amendments
BK011142088 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES
in English 29 Oct 88 p 3

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Fri—The UMNO Baru [New United Malays National Organisation] special general assembly today approved amendments to the party's constitution with little debate.

Almost all changes proposed by the supreme council were unanimously accepted by the delegates.

Even the proposal that candidates for the post of president and deputy president receive 10 extra votes for every nomination received from each division was accepted without debate.

The assembly also accepted the amendment making the posts of national Youth and Wanita [Women] leaders appointed ones.

These two amendments were central to the campaign by dissidents trying to revive the deregistered UMNO.

The assembly rejected a proposal tabled by the Jempol division, Negri Sembilan, that candidates for the posts of divisional and deputy divisional head also receive 10 automatic votes.

It also rejected a proposal by the Tambun division in Perak that Youth and Wanita leaders at division and branch levels be appointed.

Less than half the time set aside for the agenda was utilised. Delegates praised the wit of deputy president Encik Ghafar Baba, who chaired the session, for ensuring speedy approval of the amendments.

The assembly then went into committee session to debate and adopt the amendments.

Later, at a Press conference, UMNO secretary-general Datuk Mohamed Rahmat said 57 proposals were rejected while 38 were accepted, inclusive of five minor amendments.

The amendments are:

—clause 5 (1) (3) that each member has the responsibility to carry out the party's work and to abide by the party's rules and discipline. It was proposed by the Petaling Jaya division, Selangor;

—clause 6 (4) (4) that the general assembly must comprise not more than 30 Youth members and 30 Wanita members to be nominated by their respective delegates' meetings. It was proposed by the Tambun and Petaling Jaya divisions;

—clause 12 (4) (5) that the divisional delegates must comprise not more than five Youth members and five Wanita members chosen by their respective divisions. It was proposed by the Tambun and Petaling Jaya divisions.

—clause 12 (5) (5) that the function of the division delegates' meetings in to nominate the chairman, deputy chairman and two auditors. It was proposed by the Kemaman division; and

—clause 13 (12) (8) that with the agreement of two-thirds of the committee members, the division committee can reject all the branch delegates if they are found to have failed in paying their membership fees according to clause 23 (1) and 23 (2). It was proposed by the Kemaman division.

314 Fishing Boats Seized Over Past 3 Years
BK1511064988 Kuala Lumpur International Service
in English 0600 GMT 15 Nov 88

[Text] Authorities have detained 314 foreign boats over the last 3 years for encroaching in Malaysian waters. Deputy Agriculture Minister Mr Kassim Ahmad said that 117 boats were detained in 1986, 112 last year, and 85 so far this year. About 220 of the vessels were Thai fishing boats, and the rest came from Singapore, Taiwan, Vietnam, the Philippines, Hong Kong, and Indonesia.

Mr Kassim said that the government planned to let Malaysian deep-sea fishing companies use the seized boats.

Cambodia

Hun Sen on Talks, Points of Disagreement
BK1711020788 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
17 Nov 88 p 7

[Report on "talk" with Hun Sen, prime minister of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, in Soissons, France, by Jacques Bekaert—date not given]

[Text] In the middle of a vast industrial complex, the two-star "Motel des Lions" is a far cry from the expensive luxury of the "Crillon", one of Paris' most exclusive and expensive hotels, where the prime minister of the People's Republic of Kampuchea spent a few days after his arrival in France on November 3. But Soissons is conveniently located a few miles away from the little village of Fere en Tardenois, where the third round of talks between Hun Sen, Son Sann and Prince Sihanouk took place.

During more than two hours of conversation, during which Elizabeth Becker (the author of *WHEN THE WAR IS OVER* and a frequent writer on Kampuchean affairs) took active part, Hun Sen expressed moderate optimism at the way the difficult negotiations were proceeding.

"We made some real progress since the first meeting between Samdech Sihanouk and myself, in December 1987," explained Hun Sen.

"The simple fact that the different Khmer factions finally met is already important," said the young prime minister. "And we have decided to keep meeting on a quasi permanent basis."

The factions have agreed on two crucial points, added Hun Sen. "We all want the full withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops and we all agree that there should be no return of the Khmer Rouge to power."

According to the final communique of the last meeting, the three factions present in Fere en Tardenois also accept the idea of an international conference on Kampuchea. But disagreement remains. While nobody wants to see Pol Pot back in Phnom Penh, Hun Sen—and Vietnam—wants a dismantling of the military branch of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea.

Prince Sihanouk said the four factions should take part in a reconciliation government and that the four Kampuchean armies should continue to exist, with a quadripartite Ministry of Defence.

"If this is the case," said Hun Sen, "we will see a bloody civil war, not just in remote countryside but in the cities."

There is another point of contention, regarding the "dismantling" of the Phnom Penh regime. Sihanouk has proposed the simultaneous dismantling of both the PRK and Democratic Kampuchea prior to general elections.

"This is unfair," replied Hun Sen. "We should have the elections first, then the new government. The new National Assembly can decide the form of regime the people want."

Hun Sen insisted that the PRK is a legitimate state, expressing the wishes of the people of Kampuchea.

"We agree on many facts," remarked Hun Sen, "but we do not agree on the timing of changes."

The problem of international supervision has also been the subject of several discussions between Sihanouk and Hun Sen.

The prince, and most countries which voted in favour of the ASEAN-sponsored resolution at the United Nations, want an international peace-keeping force (PKF) in order to guarantee civil peace in Kampuchea.

"I agree that we need international supervision," said Hun Sen. "But we don't need another army. We can have a strong group of observers, some kind of international commission."

"The problem of international control is something we are still discussing. We should insist on substance, not on semantics," explained Hun Sen.

According to the prime minister, the role of the control commission—or whatever it is called—should be wide-range. One of its first missions would of course be to ensure the reality of the Vietnamese withdrawal. "But also the end of foreign military assistance to all Khmer factions, the end of sanctuaries, the safe return of the Kampuchean refugees, the application of the ceasefire, and the fairness of the general elections," he said.

"But whatever the commission, it should not be armed and should fully respect the independence and sovereignty of Kampuchea," insisted Hun Sen. "It will come under the authority of the Kampuchean government."

The question of human rights was not mentioned in the final communique. This, explained Hun Sen, was because Prince Sihanouk and Son Sann did not want to include a condemnation of the Khmer Rouge regime. "They only wanted to talk about human rights in general terms because Sihanouk told us it would have been too delicate to refer directly to the Khmer Rouge while still in the middle of the talks and in regard to the spirit of negotiation. But I will say what I want about the Khmer Rouge," added Hun Sen.

One of the most concrete accomplishments of the last meeting in Fere en Tardenois was the decision to set up a working group that should include the four Khmer factions. So far the Khmer Rouge are absent but, said the communique, the door is open.

Hun Sen sees the role of this new working group as different from the one set [up] last July in Jakarta. "The Jakarta group is not restricted to Kampucheans alone. It will deal with the international aspects of the conflict," said Hun Sen. "The new group will concentrate on the internal aspects of the Kampuchean problem."

Hun Sen has already appointed Mr Hor Nam Hong, a former ambassador to the Soviet Union and recently promoted to the position of deputy foreign minister, to lead the PRK delegation to the working group, along with Mr Uch Kiman, director of political affairs at the PRK Foreign Ministry. "The two or three other members will have the rank of deputy ministers," Hun Sen noted.

Independent observers have frequently commented on the intellectual quality of Hun Sen's entourage and somebody like Uch Kiman, educated in Australia, is certainly a convincing example of Phnom Penh's "best and brightest."

The prime minister is always prompt to remark that so far he has agreed to a lot of concessions. "We are willing to let the Khmer Rouge play a political role, we are ready to have a regime with several political parties. We also

accept that foreign military aid to all factions should stop, including our own. We do this because we take into account the interest and happiness of the people of Kampuchea."

Chea Sim Presides Over Regional Congress

*BK1211063188 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1300 GMT 11 November 88*

[Text] On the morning of 10 November, at the party political training school of Kandal Province, the first Kandal regional party congress was solemnly opened under the chairmanship of Comrade Chea Sim, member the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the National Assembly, and of the KUFNCD National Council.

The congress was honored by the presence of delegates from the Central Organization Commission, Central Control Commission, Central Propaganda and Education Commission, office of the party Central Committee, Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Youth Union, KFTU, and the Phnom Penh City Party Committee, and representatives from Mondolkiri Province.

The congress has 100 full members, representing party committees of communes, districts, offices, units, and the 13 provinces under the authority of the Kandal Province's regional party committee.

Taking the floor, Comrade Lim Thi, alternate member of the party Central Committee and secretary of the Kandal Provincial Party Committee, made an opening speech outlining the great achievements scored by the Kandal Regional Party Committee during the past nearly 10 years. The comrade also called on all of the congress' members to pay attention to reports and different viewpoints to draw good experiences for future implementation in order to achieve new successes.

Chea Sim Receives Soviet Friendship Delegation

*BK1111075288 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 11 Nov 88*

[Text] On the afternoon of 9 November at Chamka Mon State Palace, Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the National Assembly and of the KUFNCD National Council, received and had a cordial and intimate conversation with the delegation of the Soviet-Cambodian Friendship Association led by Comrade A.M. Paramonov, representative of the USSR Supreme Soviet and chairman of the association. Also present was Comrade Sim Ka, member of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Central Control Commission, and chairman of the Cambodian-Soviet Friendship Association.

Speaking on that occasion, Comrade Chea Sim highly valued the delegation's visit to Cambodia which has significantly contributed to constantly strengthening and

developing the bond of friendship, solidarity, and all-round cooperation between the parties, governments, and peoples of the two countries, particularly between the two friendship associations.

Comrade Chea Sim also informed the delegation of the growth of the KPRAF which is now gradually resuming the task of defending the motherland and revolutionary gains, thus creating favorable conditions for a large number of Vietnamese army volunteers to make their seventh withdrawal, including 50,000 Vietnamese army volunteers and their command which are being repatriated this year.

Comrade Chea Sim also expressed profound thanks to the Soviet party, government, and people for their material and moral support to the Cambodian people's rebirth and their struggle for peace, thus ensuring an independent and socialist future for their beautiful and glorious Angkor land.

In his reply, Comrade Paramonov acclaimed the all-round development made by the Cambodian people during the past nearly 10 years, saying that it displayed the joint efforts of the entire party, KPRAF, and all Cambodian people to realize the strategic goals put forth by the Fifth Party Congress.

The comrade head of the delegation also affirmed that the Soviet party, government, and people would continue to support all peaceful policies put forth by the Cambodian party and state which respond to the sacred aspirations of the Cambodian people and which are in line with world and regional trends toward peaceful coexistence and cooperation.

Phnom Penh Meeting Marks GOSR Anniversary

*BK0811112588 Phnom Penh SPK in French
1205 GMT 7 Nov 88*

[Text] Phnom Penh, 7 Nov (SPK)—A solemn meeting was held in Phnom Penh this morning in honor of the Great October Socialist Revolution [GOSR].

Present there, among others, were Chea Soth, Political Bureau member of the KPRP Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Nguon Nhel, alternate Political Bureau member and secretary of the Phnom Penh City Party Committee; and Rashit Khamidulin, ambassador of the Soviet Union to Cambodia.

In his speech, after hailing the historic significance of this event, Nguon Nhel reiterated the support of the Cambodian party, state, and people for the Leninist policy pursued by the CPSU Central Committee as well as for its peace initiatives, especially the recent seven-point proposal at Krasnoyarsk, which greatly contributed to the strengthening of trust, peaceful coexistence, and detente in the world.

The decision to withdraw 50,000 Vietnamese volunteers from Cambodia this year attests to the position of strength of the KPRAF and to the Cambodian people's right to mastery. However, the withdrawal in question must be linked with the cessation of military aid to the Khmer opposition groups and the end of their use of sanctuaries in foreign territory for sabotage activities against the Cambodian people.

The implementation of the PRK's national reconciliation policy has contributed to the establishment of good relations among Southeast Asian countries in conformity with the initiatives of the Soviet Union, including the statement made recently by Mikhail Gorbachev at Krasnoyarsk.

The Cambodian party, state, and people express their deep thanks to the Soviet party, state, and people for having contributed to the rebirth, restoration, and reconstruction of Cambodia's economy, which was destroyed by the war and the genocide of Pol Pot.

For his part, Rashit Khamidulin, after talking about the restructuring undertaken by the Soviet Union in all fields, supported the proposals of the PRK, SRV, and LPDR to promote the process of national reconciliation in Cambodia and the transformation of Southeast Asia into a region of peace, stability, and good-neighborliness.

He went on:

By supporting every positive effort in order to rapidly bring about national reconciliation in Cambodia, we salute the effects of the JIM [Jakarta informal meeting] spirit and the relations between the countries concerned and the countries of the Nonaligned Movement. We are convinced that the third meeting between Council of Ministers Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk in Paris will constitute an important step in this direction.

The Soviet diplomat wished happy development for the friendly relations between the two countries—in the interests of the two peoples and of peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the world.

A lecture was also organized on the same occasion by the KUFNCD National Council.

Soviet Envoy Addresses Meeting
*BK0811104088 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1300 GMT 7 Nov 88*

[Speech by Soviet Ambassador to Cambodia Rashit Khamidulin at meeting held in Phnom Penh on 7 November in honor of 71st Great October Socialist Revolution anniversary—in Russian fading into Cambodian translation]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The Soviet Union vigorously supports the united constructive line of the PRK, SRV, and LPDR in the bringing about national reconciliation in Cambodia and transforming Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and good neighborliness.

While supporting the various positive efforts aimed at rapidly bringing about national reconciliation in Cambodia on the basis of a concrete solution, we hail the effect of the spirit of the Jakarta informal meeting and the good relations between the countries concerned and those in the Nonaligned Movement. We hope that the third meeting between Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers, and Samdech Sihanouk in Paris will become an important step in this direction.

With incomparable satisfaction, I would like to emphasize the incessant strengthening of the friendly relations and all-round cooperation between the Soviet Union and the PRK. The meetings between the top-level Soviet leadership and Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the PRK Council of State, and Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs—who have regular meetings—have greatly contributed to the promotion of bilateral friendly relations and cooperation. These leadership meetings have attested to the unchanged unanimity of stance of our countries on current important issues, showing the resolute desire of the parties to advance toward perfecting the bilateral activities between the Soviet Union and socialist Cambodia in various fields.

The considerable assistance given by our country for the rebirth, restoration, and reconstruction of Cambodia's economy constitutes the pride of the Soviet people. From 1979 to 1985, the Soviet Union provided the PRK with 45.5 million rubles in aid, and during the current 5-year plan from 1986 to 1990 this aid will grow to 166 million rubles. The volume of merchandise transported to Cambodia has also increased. From 1981 to 1985 this was worth 293 million rubles. According to the 1986-90 plan, the volume of goods transported from the Soviet Union will go up to 600 million rubles.

There are 41 memoranda on technical cooperation with the PRK, including cooperation in important sectors such as electric power, rubber production, health care, and cadre training. We can proudly say that, in all, more than 1,500 competent Cambodian specialists have received training in the vocational schools and higher and secondary specialized education institutes in our country.

While stressing the success of bilateral cooperation, we clearly see some difficulties in this field. At present, the Soviet and Cambodian sides have taken measures to overcome these difficulties and find out new ways to upgrade the efficiency [words indistinct].

We firmly believe that the bonds of friendship linking our two countries together will be further strengthened steadily in the interests of our two peoples and of peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the world.

In conclusion, I wish the Cambodian people more successes in realizing their difficult tasks to rebuild durable peace and justice and improve the living conditions in the land of Angkor.

Tie Banh Greets USSR's Yazov on Anniversary
*BK0911023888 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1200 GMT 8 Nov 88*

["Text" of greetings message from Comrade Tie Banh, alternate member of the KPRP Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of national defense, to Comrade General Dmitriy Timofeyevich Yazov, minister of defense of the USSR; date not given]

[Text] Dear Comrade Minister:

On the occasion of the 71st anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution of Russia, on behalf of all KPRAF cadres and combatants and in my own name, we would like to extend fraternal salutations and most sincere greetings to you and cadres and combatants of the entire Soviet Army and Navy.

We are convinced that the Great October Socialist Revolution will continue to serve as a brilliant beacon for and casts its great influence on the struggle for peace, sovereignty, and progress waged by people throughout the world, including our country. We will certainly score greater victories in the cause of defending and building our country which is firmly advancing into a new turning point.

On this auspicious occasion, we wish you and, through you, all cadres and combatants in the entire Soviet Army and Navy perfect health, powerful strength, and new victories.

May the bond of solidarity and all-round cooperation between Cambodia and the Soviet Union in general and between our two defense ministries in particular firmly strengthen and forever develop.

Please, Comrade Minister, accept our highest regards.

1.8 Million Ha of Monsoon Rice Planted
*BK1711054488 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0355 GMT
17 Nov 88*

[Text] Phnom Penh, 17 Nov (SPK)—By the beginning of November, peasants throughout the country had planted 1.8 million hectares of various types of rice, or 84 percent of the plan set for the current campaign and an increase of 13 percent over the same period in the previous year.

Of this, intensive cropping covered 82,000 hectares and early rice 32,000 hectares.

Kompong Chhnang, Svay Rieng, Takeo, Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey, Kampot, and Stung Treng Provinces fulfilled more than 90 percent of their plans.

Greetings Message Sent to Greek Communists
*BK1711124588 Phnom Penh SPK in English
1108 GMT 17 Nov 88*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK November 17—The Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea has sent warm greetings to the Communist Party of Greece [KKE] on its 70th founding anniversary.

The message says: "Faithful to Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, the Communist Party of Greece has since its foundation persisted in its heroic struggle, surmounting numerous difficulties in its fight for peace, democracy and the fundamental rights of the Greek people. The KKE has played an important role in the Greek mass movement to defend national sovereignty, dismantle foreign military bases in Greece, withdraw the country from NATO, and establish friendship and cooperation with other peoples.

"We highly value the contributions of the communists and other progressive people of Greece to the common struggle and are deeply convinced that the KKE led by General Secretary Kharilaos Florakis will successfully carry out its 12th Congress' resolution.

The message expresses profound thanks to the KKE and the Greek people for their firm support to the just struggle of the Kampuchean people. It wishes the ties between the parties and peoples of the two countries further consolidation and development.

UN Role in Disarmament Process Stressed
*BK1311114388 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic
Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 12 Nov 88*

["Excerpts of statement made at the UN security and disarmament commission's meeting by the DK representative attending the 43d session of the UN General Assembly"—date not given]

[Text] Following the discussion on the continuing arms race issue and various major difficulties encountered in the disarmament process, In Sopheap, member of the DK delegation, mentioned Vietnam committing aggression against Cambodia as an example illustrating the above-mentioned matters. He said: Our neighboring country took the opportunity of the U.S. troop withdrawal from Vietnam in 1975 to achieve its own regional expansionist ambition in the framework of another superpower's universal, military, ideological, and economic strategy.

The CPV, from the first to the sixth party congress, successively reaffirmed its determination to achieve the Indochinese federation under Vietnamese control. In the

first stage, Laos and Cambodia must be dominated; then the domination will be expanded over all peninsular countries located between India and China.

From one generation to another since its creation in 1930, the CPV has systematically indoctrinated cadres of all levels, party members, and members of the Vietnamese communist youth, with the strategy of Indochinese federation.

In accordance with its boundless ambition Vietnam has built a gigantic army, the world's third most powerful, consisting of 1.2 million regular troops and 1.5 guerrillas and militiamen. As for Vietnam's weaponry, apart from its modern armaments there are also chemical and biological arms, which have been used to cause devastation and to endanger the lives of thousands of Cambodian people.

As they arrogantly consider themselves the outpost of socialism, the Vietnamese have a well-determined mission to enslave the whole region under the influence of an alliance of a superpower, namely the Soviet Union, their protector and financial backer.

After taking over South Vietnam in 1975, the Vietnamese believed that nothing could stop its advance. In 1977 they swallowed Laos, and in December 1978 they sent 250,000 troops to invade Cambodia in order to completely achieve their small Indochinese federation which is their first and necessary move toward successively enlarging the Indochinese federation. This was the origin of the regional war.

The war has dragged on for 10 years so far and it will last longer if the struggle on the battlefields is reduced and international pressure on the aggressors is lessened. This situation would also hamper ASEAN efforts to establish a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality in Southeast Asia. DK unreservedly supports the ASEAN countries' endeavor.

The past reality and present facts have clearly proved that the strategy of the Soviet Union and its Vietnamese ally will remain unchanged in the near future, causing regional tension, instability, and mutual mistrust; leading to the arms race.

In Sopheap added that DK, a victim of acts of aggression and occupation committed by foreigners who are menacing its survival, has full confidence in the UN—the world's supreme organ representing various nations and having a well-defined charter, proper procedures, and necessary means. For this reason, following Vietnam's invasion in 1979, DK immediately lodged a protest note to the UN Security Council. But the Soviet Union, an ally of the Vietnamese aggressors, used its right of veto against the protest. However, DK's hope still remains with the UN.

DK raised the question of Vietnam's aggression against Cambodia at the UN General Assembly and at the UN-sponsored international conference on Cambodia in 1981. Nevertheless, Vietnam has ignored the UN role in the settlement of the Cambodian problem, and has rejected the UN General Assembly's nine resolutions and the international conference's declaration demanding that the Vietnamese aggressor troops be completely withdrawn from Cambodia without precondition. DK hopefully wishes that the UN will fully retain its role to protect the rights, freedom, and sovereignty of all nations by enforcing the respect of the spirit and essence of the UN charter and international law.

By so doing, the UN will help various nations of the world, in particular small nations such as Cambodia, to achieve their sacred wish of safeguarding their own survival and getting rid of the aggression committed by bigger countries with ambitions of expansionism. Also this will determinedly contribute to disarmament because the rights, freedom, independence, and sovereignty of various nations have been protected through the respect of the UN charter and international law, and because superpowers will no longer be in great need of armaments.

Indonesia

Government Officially Recognizes Palestine State
BK1711034888 Jakarta ANTARA in English
0333 GMT 17 Nov 88

[Text] Jakarta, November 17 (OANA-ANTARA)—The Indonesian Government on Wednesday issued a statement expressing its recognition of the independent state of Palestine proclaimed by the leaders of the PLO in Algiers on Tuesday.

A press statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Wednesday afternoon said that the decision of the Indonesian Government to recognize the independent state of Palestine is fully in line with the support that Indonesia had given in the past to the struggle of the Palestinian people to restore their valid rights to determine their own fate and to establish a Palestinian state in their territory.

The support of the Indonesian Government is also in line with the ideals contained in the preamble of the 1945 Constitution which declares that truly, independence is the right of all nations and for that reason all forms of colonialism should be abolished from the earth.

The government and the people of Indonesia believe that this new development will constitute a real contribution to the establishment of peace in the West Asia region and in the world in general.

The (?Foreign Affairs) Ministry statement also said that the government and the people of Indonesia welcome [words indistinct] the decision of the Palestine National Council to proclaim the establishment of the independent state of Palestinian [as received].

Foreign Minister Ali Alatas Leaves for Hanoi
BK1711094088 Jakarta ANTARA in English
0851 GMT 17 Nov 88

[Text] Jakarta, November 17 (OANA-ANTARA)—Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and party left for Hanoi, Vietnam, Thursday morning for a meeting with his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Co Thach to discuss the proposed plan for the settlement of the Kampuchean problem (JIM-2), scheduled to take place in Jakarta in January 1989.

Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, who will be in Hanoi until November 21, is accompanied by Director General For Political Affairs Johan Wouhanapessy, Chief of the Asia Pacific Directorate Ashri Boer, Director for Foreign Information Samsu Bahri, and several other Foreign Office officials.

Ali Alatas is scheduled to arrive in Hanoi on Thursday noon and during his stay in Hanoi he is scheduled to meet with Vietnamese leaders, particularly Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach.

The first meeting to settle the Kampuchean problem (Jakarta informal meeting) took place in Bogor last July, and Indonesia with the support of the other ASEAN member countries, has planned to hold the second Jakarta informal meeting.

Paper on Thai-PRC Arms Stockpile Scheme
BK1711020488 Jakarta JAKARTA POST in English
12 Nov 88 p 4

[Editorial: "Thai Arms Stockpile"]

[Text] Thailand's decision to set up arms stockpile as a war reserve with the logistical assistance of China should be an issue of serious concern to the rest of ASEAN, especially to Indonesia. Why Bangkok at this stage, with a national economy booming, and a negotiated solution to the almost 10-year old Kampuchean problem not an impossible prospect, should rely on Chinese military aid is not at all clear to us.

One would expect that at this stage Thailand, well-known for mastering the fine art of diplomacy, would initiate serious efforts to limit its dependence on China—especially in terms of military logistics—and work towards a speedy solution of the Kampuchean problem.

Prime Minister [P.M.] Chatchai Chunhawan himself, after he was installed as the new head of government last September, stated that he intended to improve Thailand's

relationship with the Indochinese states—the reference "Indochinese" was the prime minister's, not ours—and transform the battlefronts into trading markets.

The setting up of military stockpiles with Chinese assistance by stressing again that Thailand is "a frontline state" will have precisely the very effect of prolonging the prevailing of a battlefront situation in mainland Southeast Asia. This action is not conducive at all to achieving peace.

It will also strengthen China's leverage to achieve a de facto veto power in rejecting any solution not to its liking by continuing its military assistance to the Khmer Rouge by using Thailand as its conduit.

When P.M. Chunhawan said that "... both Malaysia and Indonesia understand our situation, that we are a frontline state and that we need to have ready access to the arms reserve in the event of an attack," we indeed are curious what exactly he conveyed to Jakarta, and what the response was.

Undoubtedly, Indonesia is following with great interest the current visit of the Chinese prime minister, Li Peng, to Bangkok. The fact that this is his first foreign visit since he took office last November, just shows that Thailand is not unimportant in Beijing's schemes as far as Southeast Asia is concerned.

We could expect that the Kampuchean problem as an agenda item will loom large in the talks between the Thai and the Chinese prime ministers.

In this connection, the meeting earlier this week between Phnom Penh's P.M. Hun Sen, Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Son Sann was not totally unproductive. By discussing insurmountable problems such as "human rights in the future Kampuchea" and the dismantling of the Phnom Penh's regime, that is at present the de facto government in Kampuchea, we surely should not expect any dramatic result.

Hun Sen's revelation that Beijing had warned Prince Sihanouk not to strike a private deal with him (Vietnam) is interesting indeed. The more China hardens in its position that Vietnam should withdraw its troops completely from Kampuchea before military assistance to the Kampuchean resistance groups could be ceased, while in the meanwhile Prince Sihanouk continues his dialogue with P.M. Hun Sen, the more the possibility increases that the Prince will perform his dazzling political ballet by returning to Phnom Penh, not on Chinese terms.

Because Norodom Sihanouk by now realizes, we suppose, that Beijing is just using the Kampuchean issue—one of the three demands—as a bargaining chip to get the most out of Moscow. After all, Mikhail Gorbachev is eager to have a summit meeting in Beijing.

These recent developments relating to the Kampuchean problem, or in a larger context, to the possibility of forging a new cooperative regional order in Southeast Asia, indicate that Indonesia as convener of the Jakarta Informal Talks on Kampuchea should be firm—albeit, discreetly—in order to remind the other ASEAN members what really is at stake in this region beyond their particular national interests.

Philippines

Manglapus Defends U.S. Bases Agreement
HK1711044588 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 17 Nov 88 p 21

[By Romy V. Mapile]

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus disputed charges of failure in the military bases agreement (MBA) in a luncheon speech before the Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines.

"Whatever we asked, we got," Manglapus said.

He added that he did not decide the amount to be asked in the negotiations.

It was a preparatory committee made up of representatives from the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the government, he added.

Manglapus said, however, that he was given options by the preparatory committee on the \$1.2 billion payment which he had announced in his first policy speech in June.

Manglapus also described the final stages of the 1988 MBA review which he negotiated in the U.S. and signed with Secretary of State George Shultz in Washington, D.C.

He recalled that the 1983 agreement was negotiated and signed at the U.S. embassy in Manila behind closed doors.

Manglapus reiterated the position of the Philippine government on the bases as part of the U.S. strategy in the Far East, not for the protection of the Philippines alone.

He said also that although the Philippines got only \$400 million in total annual payments, this was better than no payments at all.

Manglapus added that the Economic Support Fund (ESF) mechanics of the MBA, which includes purchases by the U.S. military of Philippine products, could be stretched to apply to the reduction of Philippine debt obligations to the U.S.

Senators File Bill on Bases Pact Expiry
HK1411045388 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 14 Nov 88 pp 1, 5

[By Olaf S. Giron]

[Text] The Senate fully supports President Aquino's declaration on Nov. 2, 1988 that the military bases agreement (MBA) expires in 1991, as provided for in the Constitution, Sen. Rene Saguisag said over the weekend in a resolution he had earlier filed in the upper chamber.

Saguisag's Resolution No 315 complements Sen. Orlando Mercado's resolution, urging the President to give notice to the U.S. government that the bases agreement ends in 1991.

Senate President Jovito Salonga said that the Senate will pass the Mercado resolution when it resumes sessions on Nov 21, along with another resolution expressing the chamber's partial dissent on the Manglapus-Shultz memorandum of agreement, particularly on the nuclear weapons issue.

Salonga said the Senate will also draw up its position on the alternative use of the military bases when the U.S. pulls out of Clark and Subic.

The Senate president said the U.S. forces will eventually move out.

In his resolution, Saguisag said that there is really no conflict between the Rusk-Ramos exchange of notes and the Constitution on the expiry date.

"If notice is given at least a year before Sept 16, 1991, then the MBA will end on that date," he said.

He said that then U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Foreign Affairs Secretary Narciso Ramos cut the period of the MBA to 25 years, or up to 1991, when they concluded the exchange of notes on Sept 16, 1966.

Saguisag said it would have been absurd for the parties to have chosen the even number of 26 years as the shortened period, or up to 1992.

"The supposed conflict is more apparent than real. All along, it has been understood that the President is keeping all her options open until 1991. It was only of late that some critics have said that the expiry is 1992, when she is no longer President," the senator said.

He said that assuming there is conflict, the Constitution will prevail, stressing that the Supreme Court can declare a treaty or other international or executive agreement invalid if it does not conform with the Constitution, proving that the Charter is superior to a treaty.

Saguisag said that more than a century of U.S. jurisprudence has repeatedly held that the Constitution prevails over treaties and international or executive agreements.

He cited the case of *Raid V. Covert*, where it was ruled by the U.S. Supreme Court: "This court has regularly and uniformly recognized the supremacy of the Constitution over a treaty."

The phrase "executive agreement" is appropriately reserved for agreements made solely on the basis of the constitutional authority of the President.

Saguisag recalled that President Manuel Roxas, in negotiating the military bases agreement on Mar 17, 1947, decided that the negotiators must broadly represent the "best talents available and the widest cross section of all viewpoints."

Roxas directed Vice President Elpidio Quirino, in his capacity as secretary of foreign affairs, to take complete charge of the negotiations and named his advisers and consultants to a committee that included four members of the Senate foreign affairs committee.

These were Senators Vicente Francisco, Proceso Sebastian, Salipada Pendatun, and Tomas Cabili, who represented various political parties, because Roxas believed that matters of foreign policy and national defense must be decided and carried out without regard to partisan considerations.

Saguisag said that while negotiations for a treaty are usually conducted by an agent of the executive, members of the Senate were taken in at an early stage as observers and advisers.

Senator on Problem of Checking Nuclear Weapons
HK1711045188 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 17 Nov 88 pp 1, 18

[Text] The problem of proving that nuclear weapons are stored aboard U.S. military craft or in foreign military bases maintained by the U.S. government is all up to the Philippine government based on the Manglapus-Shultz amendment to the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. military bases agreement (MBA), Sen. Teofisto Guingona Jr. said yesterday.

The burden was made heavier for the Philippine government after U.S. President Ronald Reagan recently wrote President Aquino that he was confirming the U.S. government policy of neither confirming nor denying the presence or existence of nuclear weapons in U.S. foreign military bases, planes, or ships, Guingona said.

Filipino scientists had earlier said that they are not yet capable of detecting the presence of nuclear weapons at U.S. military facilities in the Philippines.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus had earlier been quoted as saying that the agreement he signed with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz ended the U.S. policy of complete silence on nuclear weapons.

The Manglapus-Shultz agreement states that the consent of the Philippines is required if the U.S. government wants its ships and planes to visit or fly over any part of the country.

Guingona said Reagan's statement and the text of the Manglapus-Shultz agreement are hazy and inconsistent.

Many senators said they are wary of the Manglapus-Shultz agreement because it reportedly violates the policy of the Philippine government against the existence of nuclear weapons in its territory as provided for by the Constitution.

A majority of the 23-man Senate voted "yes" to the antinuclear weapons bill sponsored by Senators Wigberto Tanada and Aquilino Pimentel Jr.

The bill has gathered dust at the House of Representatives since its passage in the Senate last June, observers said.

Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile described the provision on the visit of U.S. military ships and the overflight of U.S. military planes as one of the most "dangerous" items in the Manglapus-Shultz agreement.

Several senators had earlier chided Manglapus and Malacanang for failing to consult the Senate before Manglapus was allowed to go to Washington, D.C. to sign the agreement.

They considered the agreement a "very sensitive and important foreign relations matter" that eventually affects the future of the country.

Enrile, the lone opposition in the Senate, had earlier told newsmen he was not invited by the Senate leadership to a briefing on the agreement at a Makati building.

Sen. Leticia Ramos Shahani, chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, had earlier said that only 10 senators attended the Manglapus briefing.

Sen. John Osmena deplored his being left out in the Manglapus briefing although he had asked Shahani not to forget to invite him since she is the chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee.

Shahani said, however, that the senators were invited to the briefing by Senate President Jovito Salonga, president of the Liberal Party (LP).

Osmena had earlier bolted Salonga's party to join the pro-administration Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino (Struggle of Philippine Democrats) (LDP) party, led by Speaker Ramon V. Mitra Jr.

Experts Say Nuclear Law Voids Bases Pact
HK1411045188 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 14 Nov 88 pp 1, 10

[By Marlen Ronquillo]

[Text] The enactment of the no-nukes bill earlier endorsed by the Senate would void the Manglapus-Shultz amendments to the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement, according to the Senate and a panel of legal luminaries.

The legal panel is composed of former Supreme Court Justice Pedro Yap, Justice Vicente Abad Santos and former Constitutional Commission member Joaquin Bernas. The Senate and the panel said a firm antinuclear law from Congress would be superior to the executive agreement covering the terms of the MBA [Military Bases Agreement] signed last month by Manila and Washington.

In case of conflict between a no-nukes law and a key provision of the Manglapus-Shultz accord, the law would prevail, they said.

The no-nukes bill seeks to ban the entry or transit of nuclear carriers into Philippine territory. The amended terms of the MBA allow port calls, transit and overflights of nuclear carriers.

The legal opinion of the Senate and the legal panel will be submitted to President Aquino.

The failure of Congress to pass a firm antinuclear law has frustrated efforts by a bloc in the Senate to void the Manglapus-Shultz agreement.

The legal panel has said the President is free to interpret Article 2 Section 8 of the Constitution which says the country adopts a nuclear-free policy without the law.

The panel added that without the law, the President cannot be compelled by Congress to submit the terms of the amended agreement for scrutiny and ratification.

The Senate earlier planned to ask Ms. Aquino to submit to the Senate for ratification the Manglapus-Shultz accord.

But the senators voted to pass a "sense of the Senate resolution" to express the senators' collective indignation over key provisions of the amended agreement.

The two moves were a compromise between the option to keep silent on the agreement and a proposal from Sen. Wigberto Tanada to scrap the entire agreement so a new one can be renegotiated.

Meanwhile, Sen. Rene Saguisag filed a resolution asking for closer coordination between the executive branch and Congress in making treaties, executive and international agreement.

Saguisag in a letter also asked the President for closer coordination.

Saguisag said the "tension" between the legislative and executive branch of government on issues related to treaty-making and foreign relations have also troubled Washington.

More on Nuclear, Expiry Issue
HK1111040688 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 11 Nov 88 pp 1, 14

[By Fred M. Lobo]

[Text] President Aquino and the Senate jointly affirmed yesterday that the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement (MBA) expires on Sept. 16, 1991, not in 1992.

However, Malacanang and the Senate leadership remained deadlocked on the final interpretation of the nuclear-free provision of the Constitution but temporarily settled the conflict by agreeing that the executive branch can have its own interpretation pending passage of legislation by Congress on the issue.

In a meeting yesterday in Malacanang, the President and a group of senators led by Senate President Jovito Salonga also agreed that a study on the alternative uses of the U.S. military bases in the country be pursued in preparation for any eventuality.

On the nuclear issue, Malacanang maintained that it has the prerogative to interpret the constitutional provision as it sees fit "in the national interest" while the Senate asserted that the nuclear ban is clear, total, and absolute in the Constitution.

The final resolution of the issue will depend on the fate of the antinuclear bill passed earlier by the Senate and now pending action by the House and later the President, should it also be approved by the House.

In the meantime, Salonga said that the "prescription" provided by a top-level bases study committee headed by former Chief Justice Pedro Yap could take care of the situation.

In its report submitted to the Senate and Malacanang, the Yap committee prescribed that in the absence of a congressional legislation, the executive department may rely on its own interpretation of the nuclear provision.

Section 8, Article II, of the Constitution provides that: "The Philippines, consistent with the national interest, adopts and pursues a policy of freedom from nuclear weapons in its territory."

Salonga stressed that the Seante will stick to its own interpretation of the nuclear provision as embodied in the Senate bill sponsored earlier by Sen. Wigberto Tanada.

He said this means that "no installation or storage" of nuclear weapons in the country will be allowed and that the policy would cover those "in transit."

On the other hand, Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus said the position of executive department, which is embodied in the MBA, is that the executive department determines what would be "in the national interest."

Manglapus said that the matter of allowing or not the transit of vessels and overflights by craft should be "in keeping with the international law of the seas."

Also present in yesterday's discussions were Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos and Senators Leticia Shahani, Neptali Gonzalez and Tanada.

Left-Wing Students Demonstrate at U.S. Embassy
HK1711092788 Hong Kong AFP in English 0911 GMT
17 Nov 88

[Text] Manila, Nov 17 (AFP)—Some 100 left-wing student activists Thursday burned a mock nuclear missile and an effigy of Uncle Sam in front of the U.S. Embassy here in a rally demanding the removal of U.S. military bases in the country.

"U.S. Embassy, nest of the CIA," the students shouted outside the embassy as a handful of policemen watched.

Left-wing groups accuse the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) of secretly interfering in domestic political affairs. They also maintain that nuclear warheads are stored at Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base, which U.S. officials will neither confirm nor deny.

"No to nukes. Yes to life," said a placard carried by one of the demonstrators, who dispersed peacefully after 15 minutes.

Soviet Embassy Refutes Alleged Bases Comment
HK1711081388 Hong Kong AFP in English 0748 GMT
17 Nov 88

[Text] Manila, Nov 17 (AFP)—The Soviet Embassy here denied Thursday that Moscow was willing to let U.S. military bases stay longer in the Philippines, and reiterated a call for a superpower military withdrawal from Southeast Asia.

The embassy was reacting to a Manila newspaper's report that the head of the Soviet Institute on Oriental Studies, Mikhail Kapitsa, had said that Moscow would not object to the continued stay of the U.S. bases until the year 2000.

"We cannot confirm the authenticity of this report," Soviet Embassy spokesman Sergei Yakovlev told a news conference. "Besides, we would like to point out that Mr. Kapitsa is not an official of the Soviet government."

He said Moscow's position had been "clearly expressed" by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who has called for a U.S. withdrawal from Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base in exchange for a Soviet pullout from Vietnam's Cam Ranh Bay.

Mr. Yakovlev said this stand "has not changed and stands on its merits."

Manila and Washington last month signed an agreement governing the stay of Clark and Subic until 1991, when their lease ends.

President Corazon Aquino has maintained that she wants to keep her options open on the bases' future. There is a mounting clamour among political groups for the bases' removal, but public opinion surveys have consistently shown that Filipinos in general want them to stay.

Manila's DAILY GLOBE newspaper published on its front page a copy of what it said was an official report from the Philippine ambassador to Moscow, Alejandro Melchor, citing the Kapitsa statement on the bases.

The Foreign Affairs Department and presidential palace could not confirm the Melchor report, but they stressed that Manila's decision on the U.S. bases would not be dictated by any foreign country.

Aquino, Manglapus Comment on Report
HK1711042588 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
GLOBE in English 17 Nov 88 pp 1, 6

[By staff writer Julius F. Fortuna]

[Text] President Aquino and Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said yesterday they have not yet read a September 22 report from the Philippine Ambassador to Moscow Alejandro Melchor.

The report contained a statement from Dr. Michael Kapitsa, head of the Soviet Institute on Oriental Studies, that the USSR would not object to the continued stay of U.S. military bases in the Philippines until the year 2000.

However, a Soviet diplomat in Manila stressed that the statement of Kapitsa, wrongly identified earlier as a deputy foreign minister of the USSR did not reflect the official stand of the Kremlin.

The Soviet diplomat, who spoke to the GLOBE on condition of anonymity, stressed that the matter of the U.S. bases here is a bilateral issue that concerns only the Philippines and the United States.

The Soviet diplomat stressed that only Communist Party General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze are authorized to make important pronouncements on matters like foreign military bases here.

In a copy of the Melchor report obtained by the GLOBE, Kapitsa was quoted as saying that "as for getting rid of the (U.S.) bases, there is no hurry. When the year 2000 comes you might be economically stronger and the international situation might have changed."

At Malacanang Palace, Mrs. Aquino said that regardless of the Kapitsa message she would not be influenced by the views of other countries in deciding the bases question.

"Let me just reiterate that the national interest and the welfare of our sovereign people are what we have to consider in (deliberating on) the future of the U.S. facilities in the Philippine bases, and not the views advanced by a foreign power," Mrs. Aquino said.

At the foreign office, Manglapus said the Kapitsa message was "interesting," but claimed he had not seen a copy of the Melchor report.

He added that at the time the report was supposed to have been sent to Manila he was already too engrossed with the review of the Mutual [word as published] Bases Agreement which required him to go to the United States.

The text of Kapitsa's message was contained in a nine-page report to Manglapus by Melchor, dated September 22, 1988.

When asked yesterday for his reaction, Manglapus said that he has not read Melchor's report, adding that it "may have arrived when I was in the United States."

A check of the Manglapus itinerary at that time showed that he was in the United States attending the United Nations General Assembly meeting and negotiating for a new bases accord with U.S. officials.

The Soviet diplomat said the official USSR position on foreign military bases is guided by Gorbachev's Krasnoyarsk statement.

In his speech at the Soviet Far East city on September 16, Gorbachev proposed a mutual reduction of military forces in the Asia-Pacific by the region's powers.

"If the United States agrees to eliminate military bases in the Philippines, the Soviet Union will be ready, on agreement with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, to give up the fleet's material and technical supply station in Cam Ranh Bay," Gorbachev said.

The Soviet diplomat said that his government treats the presence of U.S. bases in the Philippines as a bilateral question.

He also said that Shevardnadze has called for the removal of all foreign military bases in the region by the year 2000.

At the Malacanang, Mrs. Aquino yesterday declined to state whether she received Kapitsa's message, but stressed she will not be influenced by views of other countries in deciding on the bases question.

"Let me just reiterate that in the national interest and the welfare of our sovereign people that we have to consider (regarding) the future of the U.S. facilities in the Philippine bases, and not the views advanced by a foreign power," Mrs. Aquino said in a press statement.

Government Said Wary of Soviet Trade Proposals
HK1211090788 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
GLOBE in English 12 Nov 88 p 2

[By staff writer Rowena Bundang]

[Text] Twenty big economic proposals of the Soviet Union have lain dormant for several years because of the Philippine government's fear of possible Soviet influence in the countryside if these are approved and undertaken locally.

The proposals include those in major industries like shipbuilding and power plant construction in Northern Luzon that are expected to boost the local economy.

The government, however, is wary of approving the proposals because it might endanger national security with the entry here of communist technical experts to oversee construction of the projects.

Officials of the National Economic Development Authority [NEDA] and Philippine International Trade Center [PITC] acknowledged this fear, saying that social dimension remains the main consideration in the approval of any Soviet trade proposal.

"If we undertake any of their proposed projects, the Soviets will have to come here to help supervise construction and that would pose defense and security problems," said PITC vice president Manuel Colayco.

Ponciano Intal, NEDA director, echoed Colayco's observation but said the proposals deserve serious consideration because of their viability.

The proposals serve as the Soviet Union's contribution to the improvement of its trade relations with the Philippines after the two countries officially forged diplomatic ties in the mid-70's.

The proposals were taken up during a hearing set yesterday by the congressional economic planning staff on how to implement Resolution 1007 asking the Department of Trade and Industry to draw up proposals on feasible countertrade arrangements with the Philippines' nontraditional trade partners in the Eastern bloc.

Security Implications Viewed

HK0211065188 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
GLOBE in English 2 Nov 88 p 2

[Text] The National Economic Development Authority [NEDA] has called for more discussions on the security implications of agreements with socialist countries.

The need to draw up a system of evaluating the implications of bilateral agreements with socialist countries was one of the unresolved issues during the last meeting of the NEDA board in Malacanang two weeks ago.

A working paper used during that meeting cited that this problem exists following the government's pronouncement on the need to expand diplomatic, political and socio-economic relations with all nations "regardless of ideological and political orientation."

The Philippines has entered into more technical, scientific and economic agreements with nonsocialist nations than with those like the Soviet Union and China.

The NEDA reports said that the Philippines-Cuba scientific and technical cooperation agreement was not implemented "but rather left to expire" last December on grounds of national security. The military objected to the entry of Cuban nationals into the country, the report added.

The NEDA has recommended that government security agencies "design a security package" which would take account of security risks from similar agreements with socialist countries "to avoid diplomatic embarrassments in the future."

The economic planning body also resolved to draw up a tax and fiscal incentive package to encourage private companies to go into scientific research.

It is estimated that local firms contributed only 15 percent to the total research and development [R & D] activities in the country. The government aims to increase this to 30 percent by 1992.

"With the private sector taking the lead in R & D, the national level of research investments will increase significantly," the NEDA report said.

Reaction to Declaration of Palestinian State

Aquino Welcomes Development

HK1711105388 Hong Kong AFP in English 1042 GMT
17 Nov 88

[Text] Manila, Nov 17 (AFP)—Philippine President Corazon Aquino said here Thursday that she welcomed the declaration of a Palestinian state and that her government was studying its recognition.

Mrs. Aquino said in a statement that "the political declaration of the Palestinian National Council recognizing United Nations Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 was a positive development not only for the Philippines but for the whole world."

These U.N. resolutions implicitly recognize Israel's right to exist.

Mrs. Aquino added that "the recognition of the Palestinian state is still under study by the Department of Foreign Affairs."

A department memorandum obtained by journalists Wednesday said that if a Palestinian state was declared, "the Philippines should logically and even practically recognize it."

However, the memorandum also said that recognition should still be studied to determine whether the Palestine Liberation Organization is supporting Moslem separatists in the southern Philippines.

Manila has been courting Arab nations in recent years in a bid to deter them from contributing to the domestic Moslem separatist movement.

Foreign Minister Comments

BK1711065088 Manila PNA in English 0623 GMT
17 Nov 88

[Text] Manila, Nov. 17 (OANA/PNA)—The Philippine Government has expressed the hope the proclamation of an independent state by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) would contribute to peace in the Middle East.

"The Philippine Government," a statement from the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) said, "hopes that this will be the beginning of meaningful negotiation by the parties concerned for the establishment of a just and durable peace in the Middle East." [quotation marks as received]

PLO Chief Yasir 'Arafat on Tuesday proclaimed in Algiers an independent Palestinian state.

The news was received in Manila as a welcome development. The PLO appears to be ready to depart from what seems to be a "purely violent campaign," Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus told reporters.

Hundreds of Palestinians residing in Metro Manila took to the streets Wednesday to celebrate. The group was led by Muhammad Hamdun' PLO representative in Manila.

"We welcome with joy the declaration of the independence of Palestine and its subsequent announcement of the establishment of an independent Palestine state," a spokesman for the group said.

The government has not yet come out with a statement recognizing the newly formed Palestinian state. It is still considering the matter, Manglapus said.

The marchers held a rally in front of the Israeli Embassy in the financial district of Makati before marching to the United Nations mission in a nearby building where they dispersed peacefully.

Manglapus on Affect on MNLF Status

*HK1711091388 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan
in Tagalog 0800 GMT 17 Nov 88*

[Text] The status of the MNLF will not change, even if the government officially acknowledges the newly established Palestine state. This was emphasized by Secretary of Foreign Affairs Raul Manglapus in an interview. The PLO is an umbrella organization of Arab groups fighting for territorial freedom in Israel. Manglapus said that the national interest is foremost, as the government is still studying whether it will recognize the new state. But he shrugged off the possibility of the MNLF qualifying under the status of the Arab body. According to him the MNLF cannot be compared with the PLO.

Further on Palestinian Issue

*HK1711043788 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 17 nov 88 pp 1, 8*

[Text] Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus yesterday described PLO Chief Yasir 'Arafat's proclamation of an independent Palestinian state as a "positive development," but fell short of saying the Philippines would endorse the PLO move.

"I think it is a positive development that the PLO appears to be ready to undertake a program that is a departure from what appears to be a purely violent campaign," Manglapus said. "Certainly, we shall encourage that trend, but I'm not in a position to say whether we are about to recognize the PLO or not."

Diplomatic sources said Pacifico Castro, head of the Mideast desk in the Department of Foreign Affairs, wrote in a memorandum to Manglapus last September saying it would be hard for the Philippines to avoid recognizing a Palestinian state.

"If the Philippines should refuse or postpone recognizing a Palestinian government, such a decision would be contrary to the actions and decisions of the Philippines on the Palestinian question ... the Philippines will find it hard to postpone the opening of a Palestinian embassy in Manila," the memorandum said.

Most of the Arab world formally recognized the independent Palestinian state, but only a handful of states outside the region extended diplomatic ties yesterday.

The United States and many European countries, while ruling out recognition, said the decision by the Palestinian's parliament-in-exile would be a positive step in trying to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The Soviet Union also said it would help toward a solution in the Middle East, but held off recognizing the state, saying it has not been asked to extend diplomatic ties.

Israel rejected the declaration, saying it was an exercise in "ambiguity and double talk."

The 19 states that recognized the Palestinian homeland were Algeria, Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Qatar, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, North and South Yemen, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bangladesh, India, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritania, Turkey and Indonesia.

Egypt and Morocco stopped short of extending diplomatic recognition, but said they fully supported the move. The UAE upgraded its reaction from strong support to full recognition on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, some 400 Palestinian students yesterday burned a star of David and marched to the United Nations office in Makati to celebrate the PLO's declaration of an independent Palestinian state.

Police stood guard nearby as the marchers chanted "Long Live Palestine," danced traditional Palestinian dances and sang revolutionary songs in front of the UN office.

"It's a celebration of our independence," said a 23-year-old Palestinian student, who asked his name be withheld for security reasons. He was referring to the Palestine Liberation Organization's declaration Tuesday of an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

General Rules Out Coup by 'Loyalist Soldiers'
*HK1611111388 Manila Broadcasting
Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 16 Nov 88*

[Text] Brigadier General Rodolfo Biazon, National Capital Region Defense Command chief, recently ruled out another coup attempt by soldiers loyal to former president Ferdinand Marcos, saying that loyalist soldiers no longer have the capability to launch a coup d'etat. This followed reports of a plan code-named November Yankee which would gather rebel soldiers from Bataan, Bulacan, and Pampanga with the intention of occupying a government installation on 21 November.

Biazon said that the loyalist soldiers might be able to attack some installations but affirmed that a coup was out of the question.

Senate Divided Over Ramos as Second in Command
*HK1711044388 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 17 Nov 88 pp 1, 21*

[Text] The Senate is divided over the appointment of Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos as the second most powerful person in the country when he assumes next week the chairmanship of the General Military Command (GMC).

Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, the defense minister during the martial law period, said the designation of the defense secretary as the vice commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), next to the President of the Philippines, is a "dangerous" move.

Without questioning the integrity of Ramos, Enrile said, such a designation may be subverted by Ramos' successor who may not be as "well-meaning."

Sen. Ernesto M. Maceda, however, said he was not bothered at all by Ramos being the second most powerful person in the country.

Ramos, even without the executive order creating the GMC, can "run the show," meaning take over the presidential powers of President Aquino, if he wants to and if he has the support of the AFP, Maceda, chairman of the Senate national defense and security committee, said.

Maceda said he is not "worried" as long as Ramos gives assurances that he will not take over the government and there is "no reason to suspect that he might be motivated to assume more powers than he should really exercise."

Sen. Teofisto Guingona Jr., however, expressed apprehension over Ramos' expanded powers.

Besides the President as AFP commander in chief, the defense secretary and even AFP General Headquarters (GHQ) can now, under the executive order, mobilize the AFP, including the reserves, Guingona said.

He said that he had earlier delivered a privileged speech against the creation by both Malacanang and the AFP of the Civilian Armed Force Geographical Units (CAFGU), the forerunner of vigilante groups.

Enrile said that the President's order made Gen. Renato de Villa, AFP chief of staff, only the No 3 man in the Armed Forces.

He added that Ramos should exercise his constitutional role as a Cabinet adviser on defense and security matters, a role held by former defense secretaries since the Commonwealth under then President Manuel L. Quezon.

Enrile and Ramos have reportedly resolved their differences since Enrile left the defense post during the early months of the Aquino government.

Enrile, however, said there is nothing to patch up since, he said, he never had differences with Ramos in the first place.

Traditionally, De Villa, not Ramos, should be the second in command in the AFP next to the President, Enrile said.

Maceda, on the other hand, said De Villa's post is considered a "bureau" under the Department of National Defense (DND).

"It is a matter of working relationship," Maceda said of the arrangement between Ramos and De Villa.

Even without the executive order, Maceda said, "it is Ramos who is running the defense establishment."

Ramos Says NPA Armed Strength on Decline
*BK1711052288 Manila PNA in English 0745 GMT
17 Nov 88*

[Text] Manila, Nov 17 (OANA/PNA)—The communist New People's Army (NPA) suffered for the first time in 18 years a decrease in armed strength from a high of 25,800 guerillas on June 30 this year to 24,430 on October 31, Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos said Wednesday [16 November].

This is the first time since its founding in 1968 that the NPA, armed wing of the banned Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), experienced a decline.

The NPA started as a ragtag unit in 1968 and continued to grow steadily to 10,660 in 1983 and to a bigger force of 25,800 at the end of June this year.

But third quarter estimates of military intelligence placed the NPA force at 24,430 with the loss of 1,370 guerillas to the military's all-out campaign against the insurgents.

Ramos said development projects in the Philippine countryside also depleted NPA sympathizers who have returned to the government fold.

In his weekly press conference, Ramos said the government has been winning the hearts and minds of the people, especially in rural areas where the government has increased its presence through various socioeconomic projects.

He said the number of communist-influenced barangays (villages) has also been reduced from a previous high of 3,106 to 2,902 or a total of 204 villages liberated from communist control.

The military seized 1,169 assorted high-powered firearms as against 988 lost to the NPA in combat. The captured firearms did not include homemade guns.

Ramos said the government is on the right track against the communists and will sustain the momentum with the hope of substantially reducing the communist threat by 1991.

NPA, MNLF Reportedly Training Together
HK1611044188 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 16 Nov 88 pp 1, 18

[Text] The Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and the New People's Army (NPA) are reportedly undertaking joint training operations and other activities with the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) in the two Lanao provinces as part of the CPP-NPA's move to recover previous losses in its operations.

This was revealed by Brig. Gen. Gumersindo Yap, commander of the Army's 1st Infantry Battalion in Mindanao during a conference-workshop on national security and peace and order held last week in Cagayan de Oro City sponsored by the Department of National Defense, the Department of Local Government, and the National Police Commission.

Yap said that the goal of the communists in Mindanao is to recover losses as a result of intensified military operations, the proliferation of anticommunist civilian volunteer groups, and the demoralization and purging of CPP-NPA.

"The communist insurgents suffered, setbacks during the first and second quarters of this year and are continuously trying to make up for their losses and correct the errors committed during the period," said Yap, who represented Southcom [southern command] chief Maj. Gen. Manuel Cacanando.

Yap added that the Mindanao sector of the communist group has undergone a major restructuring of its political organ to strengthen its political and military activities.

He said from the CPP-NPA's previous seven regional party committees with 32 fronts at the start of the year, it was trimmed down to four regional committees—Western, Northern, Southern and Moro Regional Committees, which takes care of the Muslim Affairs—and 18 fronts.

During the last few months as a result of government operations. Yap said that the communists have reasserted their presence with raids and ambushes against the government. The most significant raid was the Oct. 10 attack on the Sto. Tomas town hall in Davao del Norte conducted by 120 rebels disguised as Army soldiers.

He said the rebels carted 10 assorted guns from the Integrated National Police (INP) members and P [pesos] 100,000 in cash, office equipment, and medicine.

Yap said that the latest tactical offensive of the rebels in the South showed consolidation, dispersal, and mobility of commando operations within regular operations, which is the type of technique widely used by them due to advantageous effects—avoidance of early detection by the military and fast withdrawal of troops.

Meanwhile, the strength of full-time members of the CPP-NPA in Mindanao is 4,300, 2,790 of whom are armed, while part-time members are placed at 23,300 to 36,900, he said.

Records also showed that rebels in the South are politically active in 1,496 out of 10,448 barangays. Of these, 390 are influenced, 1,106 are infiltrated, and 2,196 are threatened.

Yap added that during the past months, government forces have neutralized or de-influenced 651 barangays.

Thailand

U.S. Congressman's Burma Trip Investigated
BK1711013588 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
17 Nov 88 pp 1, 3

[Text] Police yesterday were investigating the movements of a California congressman-elect who illegally crossed into Burma to meet students at a Karen camp.

Sources said the Immigration and Special Branch police had been told to investigate the activities of Dana Rohrabacher and his aides who went to Thay Baw Bow camp, opposite Phop Phra District of Tak Province, on Tuesday.

Mr Rohrabacher and a member of his group, Jack Wheeler, director of the California-based Freedom Research Foundation, which prepared and sponsored the trip, left immediately after a press conference at the Regent Hotel last night.

"Let's say we have a problem with the plane ticket and have to get out of town as soon as we can," Mr Rohrabacher said.

Before leaving, Mr Rohrabacher and Mr Wheeler said they spent a day meeting students, including Aung Lwin, leader of the All-Burma Students' Democratic Front.

"Some 800 to 900 students gathered where the congressman and I were," said Mr Wheeler.

Mr Rohrabacher, a newly-elected Republican congressman, said he had just left the White House after seven years with President Reagan.

"I was a special assistant to the President and one of Mr Reagan's principal speech writers.

"I played a role in the development of the 'Reagan doctrine' and wrote many of the President's speeches on the subject," Mr Rohrabacher said.

After learning of the Burmese students' border flight, Mr Rohrabacher said he thought of it as a "real drama of our time to be documented.

"I went out to talk to them yesterday (Tuesday). I think those students are perhaps the most heroic figures we've ever met," he said.

Once back in the U.S., Mr Rohrabacher said he would "talk to the American people about what I saw and about the students' heroism.

"These young people have given up everything and risked everything, including their own lives, to bring democracy to their country. So they deserve all the sympathy and the support of the U.S.," he said.

Among his target audiences will be president-elect George Bush, "the people at the National Security Council, the State Department and other members of Congress.

"I am going to talk to them seriously about making sure the U.S. puts maximum diplomatic and economic pressure on the military dictatorship in Rangoon."

Mr Rohrabacher said he promised the students he would do anything he could to ensure the U.S. applies diplomatic and economic pressure on Rangoon.

"Until they democratise and tell the students to come back to the home country and to Rangoon and participate in a democratic government. That's the goal," he said.

"I'm going to bring the message to different people in the U.S. to help with humanitarian supplies, especially medicine. It's just too premature to discuss military aid," he said.

Mr Rohrabacher said. "The students are living in primitive, incredibly dangerous and peculiar circumstances. Many are suffering from malaria, and many have been killed."

Mr Rohrabacher called the students' unity with the Karens "an important development towards a unified and democratic Burma which, I think, we all should support".

"There should be no recognition for the Rangoon regime. There shouldn't be any economic assistance and trade for that matter until democracy and human rights have been established," he said.

Mr Rohrabacher did not consider his entry into Burma illegal.

"The Karens, of course, assisted us in crossing the border and into the camp; we are very grateful for that."

He said he was contacted by the Karens because of his connections in the White House and he went to Burma as a private citizen and did not inform the U.S. Embassy of his visit.

"But I informed the bosses of the U.S. Embassy," he said without elaborating.

Embassy spokesman Ross Petzing said: "We are not aware of Mr Rohrabacher's activities in Thailand. He has not contacted the embassy and is not on an official trip and therefore we have no comment to make on his activities."

Foreign Ministry officials also refused to comment, saying they had not received a full report.

The sources said Tak immigration officials had been ordered to investigate the crossing.

American 'MIA Activists' Free To Leave
BK1711024588 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
17 Nov 88 p 1

[Text] Two American MIA activists who were detained for 41 days in Laos will not be charged for illegally leaving Thailand, an immigration officer said yesterday.

"There is no problem. We have returned their passports and they are free to go," Pol Maj-Gen Kriangkrai Kan-nasut told UPI.

Donna Long, 45, and James Copp, 43, both of North Carolina, technically violated immigration regulations by leaving the country without getting their passports stamped.

The two sneaked into Laos to distribute notices of a \$2.4-million reward offered for the return of a live American prisoner of war from Indochina.

Long said they were delighted to be going home and planned to leave tomorrow.

Arrested in Laos, they were held from October 3 until Saturday when they were freed and returned to Thailand.

Pol Maj-Gen Kriangkrai said the two had valid visas for Thailand so the lack of exit stamps was "not a big matter".

The pair's passports were confiscated by immigration authorities when they re-entered Thailand on Saturday.

On Tuesday, Long said, a Thai immigration official told them the violation could mean court charges against them.

'No Hurry' To Recognize Palestinian State
BK1711023588 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
17 Nov 88 p 3

[Text] Thailand needs time before taking any action concerning recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Foreign Ministry spokesman Sarot Chawana-wirat said yesterday.

Mr Sarot said Singapore Foreign Minister Wong Kan Seng raised the issue in talks with Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan yesterday and they agreed there was no need to hurry.

Malaysia recognises the PLO because it is a Muslim country and Indonesia is likely to do likewise. But since the matter concerns the Middle East, Thailand need not follow suit, he said.

Paper Urges Recognition
BK1611035588 Bangkok THE NATION in English
16 Nov 88 p 8

[Editorial: "Thailand Should support the Palestinian State"]

[Text] PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat Yesterday proclaimed the birth of an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital. He also said the new Palestinian state wants "peaceful coexistence" with its neighbours, presumably including Israel.

We think Thailand should quickly announce its recognition of the new Palestinian state. Malaysia has done so, while Indonesia has announced that it would support the new-born state.

Earlier, the Palestine National Council had voted for political statements which, in addition to proclaiming the Palestinian state's independence, announced its endorsement of UN resolutions No. 242 (1967) and No. 338 (1973). Resolution No. 242 implies the PLO's recognition of Israel and Resolution No. 338 calls for an international conference to settle the Israeli-Palestinian dispute in the Middle East.

Israel, which has steadfastly dismissed the Palestine Liberation Organization as a "terrorist organization," is still wary of the PLO's pledge to seek peace through nonviolent means and to recognize Israel's right to exist as an independent state in peace in Palestine.

One way to allay fears of Israel is have the rest of the world quickly recognize the new Palestinian state. With wide recognition, the new Palestinian state will come under strong moral pressure to show its willingness and readiness to abide by the international code of conduct. Israel will then have no reasons to shun direct negotiations with Palestinian leaders.

Undoubtedly, the U.S., which is the patron of Israel, is in a good position to help bring the two opposing sides together and settle their 40-year-old dispute caused by the birth of the Israeli state in 1948.

While Thailand has maintained cordial diplomatic ties with Israel, Thailand has also supported the Palestinian rights to self-determination, nationhood, sovereignty and independence. In its annual UN speech, Thailand usually reiterates its support of the political struggle of the PLO. At the same time Thailand also notes that the legitimate security concerns of all states, especially that of Israel, must be considered.

By announcing its recognition of the Palestinian state, Thailand will show the rest of the world that it will back up its words with concrete and timely action.

For announcing its recognition of the Palestinian state, Thailand will show the rest of the world that it will back up its words with concrete and timely action.

For years, Thailand has been thinking about allowing the PLO to set up an office in Bangkok, but the plan has been shelved for fear of offending Israel, which has actively assisted Thailand in technological development.

Given the growing prospect of a Middle East settlement and the pledge of Palestinian leaders to seek peace with Israel, Thailand's recognition of the new Palestinian state cannot in any way be viewed as an affront to Israel.

Paper Says PLO Made 'Grave Error'

BK1611035988 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
16 Nov 88 p 4

[Editorial: "Palestinians Grasp a Double-Edged Sword"]

[Text] The Palestine Liberation Organisation made a grave error in declaring an independent state in the Israeli-occupied territories while at the same time accepting a United Nations resolution recognising Israel's right to exist. Had the PLO announced only its acceptance of the UN resolution there might have been hope for a breakthrough in the long-stalemted Mideast situation. As it stands, the Palestinians have only exacerbated Arab-Israeli tension and strengthened Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's resolve not to negotiate for a peace settlement.

PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat's strategy seems clear enough. Acceptance of UN Resolution 242 and renunciation of terrorism were conditions set by Washington for the PLO to enter into direct talks with the United States on the Mideast question. By doing so, Mr 'Arafat has established an ostensibly more moderate line and is forcing the U.S. to make good on its word. Meanwhile, his declaration of an independent Palestinian state appears aimed at giving the PLO a position of strength in any future talks with the Israelis.

Mr 'Arafat wants it all—peace and conflict, independence and compromise. His mixed-message statement from Algiers has something for everyone: good news for the Jews, good news for Palestinians. All it lacks is an initiative to defuse the hostilities in the occupied territories and a conciliatory spirit that would show the PLO's sincerity in seeking co-existence with the Israelis. It is thus apparent that Mr 'Arafat is more serious about his self-declared state than about adopting a new stance on Israel. He has baked a sour-tasting cake and covered it with sweet icing.

The Israeli prime minister, Mr Shamir, has said he will have none of it. He reacted to Mr 'Arafat's announcement by ridiculing the PLO's acceptance of UN Resolution 242 and insisting that Mr 'Arafat remains dedicated to the destruction of the Jewish state by any means possible. Presumably he will pressure his friends in

Washington to think the same. The 11-month-old uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, in which more than 320 people have been killed, therefore seems likely to worsen. Israelis and Palestinians will both feel strengthened in their struggle for dominance.

Not surprisingly, Mr Shamir was given the go-ahead by President Chaim Herzog to form the next Israeli government following the Likud bloc's success in reaching agreement with three religious parties on creation of a right-wing administration. Mr Shamir has interpreted his marginal win in the November 1 election as a mandate for firmer handling of territorial and national security issues, and it is likely that his government will adopt an even more hardline position on Arab-Israeli issues.

Mr 'Arafat saw this development coming, and therefore his Algiers declaration can be viewed as a calculated response to bolster the morale of Palestinian protesters in the occupied territories. His desire for international recognition for a Palestinian national identity is understandable. However, in this case his impatience seems to have led him into making the wrong move.

A wiser step would have been to accept Israel's right to exist, and then, at a later date, to have proceeded with the declaration of Palestinian statehood if Israel had rejected the PLO's peace offering. Presented simultaneously, it was virtually guaranteed that the Israelis would react with scorn and contempt.

With the election in Israel and the PLO meeting in Algiers, another round of missed opportunities has come and gone in efforts to find peace in that troubled region. The next chance, it seems, will be a long way off.

Further on Visit by PRC Premier Li Peng

Neighbors 'Understand' Stockpile

BK1011021088 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
10 Nov 88 p 6

[Text] Malaysia and Indonesia understand Thailand's need to set up a war reserve stockpile with China along the lines of that established with the United States, the Prime Minister said yesterday.

Gen Chatchai Chunhavan's remark came amid reports the ASEAN neighbours were concerned a stockpile would expand China's regional influence and could be used to arm the Khmer Rouge.

The premier said he had not discussed the matter with Malaysian and Indonesian leaders during his visits to their countries and they did not indicate any concern.

As a frontline state, Thailand needs a supply of weapons from which it can draw on quickly if necessary.

"I'm sure Malaysia and Indonesia understand our situation," he said.

Maj-Gen Chatchai refused to say if he would discuss the setting up of the stockpile when he meets Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng in Bangkok today.

"I will speak on two matters: joint ventures and the exchange of high technology," the premier said.

The issue of the Chinese stockpile was raised earlier yesterday in Washington by State Department spokesman Charles Redman.

"China and Thailand have been discussing the possibility of establishing a war reserves stockpile in Thailand similar to the war reserve stockpile the U.S. and Thailand agreed to" in January 1987, Mr Redman said.

"As in the case of the U.S. stockpile, we understand that the intended purpose of the Chinese-Thai stockpile would be to enhance Thai flexibility and sustainability to an external military threat to Thai and regional security," Mr Redman said.

Talks between Thai and Chinese officials have been going on for some time. Army Commander Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut is scheduled to visit Beijing on November 2 for three days of talks about the plan.

Spokesman on Sitthi-Qian Meeting

*BK1211070188 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai
1030 GMT 11 Nov 88*

[Report by Sarot Chawanawirat, director of the Foreign Ministry Information Department, on 11 November meeting between Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila and PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen at the Foreign Ministry- recorded]

[Text] There were two rounds of meetings. The first round was short, sort of a private meeting of about 10 minutes to exchange gifts and conversation, typical of a courtesy call. This is because it was their first formal meeting. They met before at the United Nations, but that was a formal visit. What was important in the first round was that China reaffirmed to Minister Sitthi, as was said during the banquet the night before at Government House, that in future ties with countries in this region, China has absolutely no desire to practice hegemonism, meaning that China will not seek to establish influence over the countries in the region and that it will seek good, equitable relations, particularly with ASEAN countries.

The next round of meetings in the main hall lasted until 1130. On the first bilateral issue, both sides agreed that relations between the two countries have proceeded well, any problems that exist are minor and can be easily resolved. Minister Sitthi asked China to support Police

General Phao Sarasin's candidacy for Interpol president during the 17-23 November Interpol conference in Bangkok. China, which will participate in the meeting, pledged to consider it.

Next, Minister Sitthi expressed regret over the loss of Chinese lives in the recent earthquake in southern China, especially in Yunnan Province. As China said it was willing to accept foreign aid, Thailand will donate 200 tons of rice, for which Minister Qian was deeply grateful.

On international issues, Minister Sitthi asked Minister Qian about developments in PRC-Soviet relations and the possibilities for a PRC-Soviet summit. Qian explained that efforts to redress PRC-Soviet relations have been going on for 6 years with no real success. Only this year there has been some progress. You [the audience] probably already knew about the Chinese proposal for an improvement in PRC-Soviet relations. The first issue is the Afghanistan problem, on which there has been some progress, including the withdrawal of Soviet troops and the Geneva accord. Next is the PRC-Soviet border issue, over which Qian said border tensions have been reduced considerably. There has been withdrawal of Soviet soldiers from outer Mongolia. Qian said there has been some progress in the Cambodian problem.

From the overall picture, the Soviet Union concurs with China that the withdrawal of Vietnamese soldiers from Cambodia is the main key to a settlement of the problem. There was some progress in meetings between the deputy Soviet and Chinese foreign ministers. As a result, China has indicated its readiness to go to Moscow in early December, and if the meeting between Qian Qichen and Shevardnadze achieves more progress, Shevardnadze will reciprocate by visiting China and, if more progress is made, a summit between Gorbachev and Deng Xiaoping is possible.

China explained to us that regardless of what happens, normalization of ties with the Soviet Union will not cause a return to the situation of the fifties. Qian used the term: there will be no strategic cooperation, such as existed in that era. That means there will be no comprehensive international political cooperation for the purpose of propagating communism nor a complete identity of views on international affairs as in that era. If normalization of relations is achieved, new PRC-Soviet relations will be in the form of peaceful coexistence based on the five principles of peaceful coexistence.

On the Cambodian problem, Sitthi briefed Qian on the outcome of the meeting of the Jakarta informal meeting's working group and the Paris meeting, as related by Prince Sihanouk to the ASEAN ambassadors in Paris and our embassy there. Sitthi and Qian shared the view that the real problem is not withdrawal of troops. [Audience] Please understand that withdrawal is still most important. However, since Vietnam has pledged to withdraw its troops, although no time frame has been set,

what is important now is any attempt by Vietnam and the Heng Samrin regime to gain a political victory in the Cambodian problem, which they have not achieved in the past 10 years. In short, they are resorting to political negotiations or means to persistently achieve the goals they set in the first place. It became evident last year, and particularly this year, that Vietnam and Heng Samrin will do everything possible to preserve political advantages in Cambodia. This can be seen from their proposals at the Jakarta informal meeting, the working group meeting, and the Paris meeting. They insisted on separating the Cambodian issue into internal and external problems, with the Jakarta meeting tackling the external problem and the Paris meeting tackling the internal problem. By doing this, Vietnam wants to accept no responsibility. If the external problem can be solved, then it does not have to become involved in the Paris meeting between [words indistinct]. This is the first point and moreover, Vietnam can remain flexible. If the Cambodian factions can not solve the Cambodian problem, Vietnam can return to Cambodia.

It is evident that all their actions are aimed at establishing Heng Samrin as the center of the future Cambodian government. After discussing the issue, the ministers agreed on this assessment. At the latest Paris meeting, the Heng Samrin side confirmed that it will not dissolve its regime. The measures it proposed were aimed at weakening the resistance factions—the Sihanouk, or the CGDK—while strengthening itself politically and militarily.

The proposal to Prince Sihanouk—the third proposal—also followed the same formula, that is, its intention was still to divide the CGDK. The proposal at Paris invites Prince Sihanouk to return to Cambodia as president of the national reconciliation council under Heng Samrin. Prince Sihanouk has already rejected the proposal.

The Heng Samrin regime claimed that it will hold an election. It is possible that an election will be held for the purpose of showing the world that the Cambodian people want the Heng Samrin regime as their future government. This is a political tactic. The ministers did not actually discuss this issue, I am just citing it as an example.

After examining the issue, Ministers Sitthi and Qian shared the same view that next year will be a very important turning point in the political settlement of the Cambodian problem. The second point on which they agreed was that the Khmer Rouge should be more flexible and join others in the efforts for a political solution of the Cambodian problem. The nonparticipation of the Khmer Rouge gave Vietnam and the Heng Samrin regime an opportunity to make propaganda for their own advantage in the international political arena. Therefore, Thailand and China agreed that the Khmer Rouge should participate in the next Paris meeting.

China emphasized to Thailand that there are numerous parties involved in the Cambodian problem at several levels. Certainly, the most important ones are Vietnam and the Soviet Union, but several other countries are also involved. Therefore, in talks with the Soviet Union, China will not attempt to solve every aspect of the Cambodian problem, but it will discuss only the aspects over which it feels the Soviet Union has full responsibility. This is what Qian explained to us.

Meanwhile, Minister Sitthi emphasized to Minister Qian that it is important that the Cambodian problem not be divided into internal and external issues as currently desired by Vietnam and the Heng Samrin regime, because it would be wrong and enable Vietnam to disown responsibility for solving the Cambodian problem. The problem involves many issues which are related and must be comprehensively resolved, as Thailand has already stated many times before. The Chinese side took note and agreed, saying it will continue to cooperate closely with ASEAN and Thailand in the settlement of the Cambodian problem.

More on Leaders' Talks

BK1211010588 Bangkok THE NATION in English
12 Nov 88 pp 1, 2

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan yesterday reiterated that Thailand will maintain its current Kampuchean policy and will try to turn Indochina into a marketplace only after Hanoi withdraws all of its troops from Kampuchea.

Chatchai told reporters that he gave Chinese Premier Li Peng the assurance during their talks at Government House.

The prime minister said his intended policy of reshaping the battlefields of Indochina into marketplaces is aimed at hastening the Vietnamese troop pullout from Kampuchea. Hanoi has pledged to withdraw its troops by the end of 1990.

Vietnam, he said, has made two troop withdrawals already, and the prime minister called that a good sign for the prospect of a settlement of the Kampuchean problem.

Li, who is in Thailand on a five-day official visit, urged Vietnam to fix its timetable for the troop withdrawals as soon as possible.

The Chinese premier said Vietnam should follow the example of the Soviet Union in Afghanistan as it is withdrawing its troops there according to a fixed schedule.

China also reaffirmed its support for a four-party government in Kampuchea under the leadership of Prince Norodom Sihanouk. The coalition should not be dominated by any one party, according to Li.

Each Khmer faction can pick its own candidates, who must then be approved by the other Khmer parties, Li told the Thai prime minister.

Li also reiterated China's support for the establishment of an international control commission and an international peacekeeping force to oversee Vietnam's troops withdrawals and to maintain law and order in Kampuchea during the transition period.

Concerning the strength of the four Khmer factions, Li said the forces of each should be frozen at about 10,000. The Khmer Rouge is presently the strongest of the three coalition partners, with about 34,000-40,000 men under arms, while Sihanouk's and Son Sann's forces have about 15,000 and 8,000 armed soldiers, respectively.

Chatchai notified Li that he will visit Laos on Nov 24-25 to strengthen bilateral relations.

Li replied that China is also working to improve bilateral ties with Laos but has been unable to normalize relations as of yet.

The Chinese premier yesterday also called on former prime ministers Prem Tinsulanon and M.R. Khukrit Pramot at their residences. Li also invited Chatchai, Khukrit and Prem to visit China.

On the plan to set up a Chinese arms stockpile here, Chatchai told reporters that the Chinese-supplied cache is aimed at bolstering Thailand's security. "There is no problem. Malaysia and Indonesia do not have any opposition," he said. The issue was not raised during Chatchai's recent visits to Kuala Lumpur and Jakarta.

In a separate meeting between Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila and his Chinese counterpart Qian Qichen, discussions also revolved around the prospects of a Kampuchean settlement.

Both Sitthi and Qian agreed that the Khmer Rouge must show greater flexibility and attend political negotiations and meetings. "The failure of the Khmer Rouge to attend the working group meeting in Jakarta and the meeting in Paris have given Vietnam an opportunity to issue propaganda that the (Khmer Rouge) is the main obstacle to a settlement," Foreign Ministry Spokesman Sarot Chawanawirat said.

The two foreign ministers were reported to agree that they believe Vietnam is now committed to pulling out its estimated 100,000 troops from Kampuchea.

According to Sarot, the key question to the Kampuchean situation is not that of the Vietnamese pullout, but concerns Hanoi's tactic of extracting the greatest benefits from a political settlement of the Kampuchean problem. "Vietnam continues to prop up the Heng Samrin regime and retain its influence in Phnom Penh without considering other factions," the spokesman said.

Sarot said during the meeting Qian reiterated China's policy that it will not seek a sphere of influence in Southeast Asia and will continue to oppose hegemonism.

"China wants to live in peace with the region and promote economic cooperation between China and the region," Sarot quoted Qian as saying.

The Sino-Soviet dialogue, Sarot said, was not aimed at a Kampuchean settlement but to identify areas involving the Soviet Union. He said Qian told Sitthi that Beijing, during its meeting with Moscow, would raise only the issues that Moscow held full responsibility for, such as Moscow's financial and military support which is critical to hanoi, enabling it to prolong its illegal occupation of Kampuchea.

Sarot quoted Qian as saying that the progress at the Sino-Soviet talks by the two foreign ministers next month could lead to a Sino-Soviet summit next year.

Qian was quoted as assuring Thailand that once the relationship between Beijing and Moscow was restored, "there would not be any cooperation to expand the countries' political ideologies like in the 1950s."

The two communist countries would normalize their relations under the five principles of peaceful coexistence and non-interference in each other's internal affairs, Sarot quoted Qian as saying.

Chatchai Hosts Dinner

BK1311005888 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
13 Nov 88 p 3

[Text] Pattaya—Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan last night urged more cooperation in science and technology to strengthen Thai and Chinese friendly relations.

Gen Chatchai made the statement at a dinner hosted for visiting Chinese Premier Li Peng at Montien Pattaya Hotel.

Besides cooperation in science and technology, the prime minister also urged more cooperation in investments.

On Saturday, Gen Chatchai made a number of joint venture proposals, including furniture production, a potato plant and coffee.

The Prime Minister also told Mr Li Peng that Thailand would like to continue buying Chinese diesel and crude oil. China currently sells about 300,000 tons of oil products to Thailand each year.

Mr Li Peng said although China is facing an oil shortage it would consider selling more oil products to Thailand as a special case, according to Government Spokesman Suwit Yotmani.

In a return speech last night, the Chinese premier lauded Gen Chatchai as a close and old friend of China.

He also said Gen Chatchai is respected by the Chinese after he initiated the establishment of the Thai-Chinese Friendship Association.

The Chinese premier then related a Chinese proverb which says: "Don't forget the man who drilled the artesian well whenever drinking the water from the well."

The Chinese premier also said that it was his determination to promote the long standing and stable relations between both countries.

Those attending last night's party included President of Parliament Dr Ukrit Mongkonnawin, Deputy Prime Minister Phichai Rattakun, and a number of wellknown businessmen.

PRC To Maintain Trade With Burma

BK1311140188 Hong Kong AFP in English 1352 GMT 13 Nov 88

[Excerpt] Bangkok, Nov 13 (AFP) - China will maintain trade with Burma despite a de facto Western economic boycott of that country since the military seized power to stop pro-democracy protests, Chinese Premier Li Peng said here Sunday.

Mr. Li reaffirmed China's trade links with its neighbor Burma whose aid has been cut off by many Western nations and Japan since a military coup September 18 ended two months of mass protests nationwide for democracy.

"China doesn't interfere in the internal affairs of other countries. Trade relations exist between China and Burma and we will maintain them," he told a press conference.

On Cambodia, Mr. Li said China would accept any leader of the Khmer Rouge faction agreed upon by a new four-party Cambodian Government and not insist on particular figures like Khieu Samphan.

"The proposed candidates must be acceptable to all the other parties," he said of the three resistance factions plus the Vietnam-backed regime in Phnom Penh.

He added that China would not "support the return to exclusive power" of the Khmer Rouge.

His comments came after Phnom Penh Premier Hun Sen hardened his stand on the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge, the military muscle of guerrillas fighting Vietnam's decade-old occupation of Cambodia.

Analysts in Bangkok have said Burma was using approaches from Beijing and Moscow in a bid to break out of its diplomatic isolation. [passage omitted]

Li Peng Comments on Trade

BK1411112188 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 13 Nov 88

[Text] Chinese Premier Li Peng held a news conference at the Shangri-la Hotel today at 1730. Speaking through an interpreter, he commented on trade relations between Thailand and China as follows:

[Begin Li Peng recording in Chinese fading into Thai translation] Premier Li Peng says that during his 4-day official visit to Thailand he was accorded an audience with his majesty the king. He held official consultations with the Thai prime minister in an atmosphere of friendship. Throughout the visit, he was accorded a very warm welcome by the Thai Government and people. He says that during the 13 years of relations, economic and trade cooperation between Thailand and China has made great development. Trade cooperation between the two countries would not stop at this level, but will continue to develop. The Chinese premier said expansion of trade between Thailand and China depends on their production capacity. He said China welcomes Thai businessmen and entrepreneurs desiring to invest in China and is ready to cooperate with Thailand in technical exchanges. [end recording]

Li Peng Departs 14 November

BK1411031888 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 14 Nov 88

[Text] PRC Prime Minister Li Peng and his party have been on an official visit to Thailand as guests of the Thai Government since 10 November. The PRC premier and his party will end their visit to Thailand today. They will leave the Royal Thai Air Force Command Airport, Don Muang, via a special flight at 9.00 am.

Security Officials Meet, Discuss Plan for South

BK1111025588 Bangkok THE NATION in English 11 Nov 88 p 3

[By Sorayut Suthasanachinda]

[Text] Hat Yai—Top government and security officials began meetings focusing on problems facing the deep South yesterday and shared an optimistic view that the revised national policy toward the Muslim community will turn the trouble-plagued region into a peaceful area within five years.

The senior officials spent the first day of a two-day session informing local civil servants of new government guidelines aimed at creating more "understanding" in the Muslim-dominated region.

The participants acknowledged that the first problem that needs to be tackled is the lingering "mistrust" which many Thai Muslims harbour against the government. The religion-conscious community has voiced fears that several of the attempts to develop the region might compromise their Islamic identity.

The revised policy on the deep South calls for Muslim leaders to play an increased role as advisors to officials handling the southern issues. This is hoped to bring about a sense of making officials more receptive to Islamic principles and to become more flexible when attempting to solve the problems.

"The old policy was not clear and sometimes created suspicion," Phichai Rattanaphon, deputy secretary-general of the National Security Council, told the meeting held at J.B. Hotel. "Problems in this region are very sensitive and even a seemingly trivial matter could bring about a badly negative result."

He cited the government's persistent attempts to promote the Thai language in the lower south, where most people speak the Malay dialect, known locally as Yawi. "Now we will say we accept Yawi but Thai will help you communicate with other Thais better," Phichai said.

The new policy also focuses on public relations campaigns, which will be carried out "cautiously" to eliminate the remaining resentment some Muslims have against the administration.

Interior Minister Praman Adireksan said the government is ready to invest resources to develop the deep south into an industrialized zone after the social and security problems are solved.

"Here we are sitting on silver and gold and never use them," Pramarn said. "When the bad things are gone we can concentrate more on the economy."

The participants also agreed that the problem involving Muslim terrorists should be attacked "politically", not militarily.

Pol Lt Gen Sawaeng Thirasawat, deputy police director general, said security forces "will try to avoid taking drastic action" when campaigning against the terrorist movement, which is said to comprise some 200 members.

"The terrorist problem is caused by politics, so it should be solved by politics," Sawaeng said.

The movement is said to be capitalizing on conflicts between government officials and Thai Muslims and is believed to have received substantial sympathy from some Muslim groups. However, its much-vaunted goal of setting up an autonomous Muslim state has become an "old story", said Phisan Munlasatsathon, permanent secretary of the Interior Ministry.

"We have changed a situation of war in 1982 into a limited terrorist warfare. We are trying to reduce the level of terrorism and will never allow it to escalate into a war again," Phisan said.

Sawaeng said the military, police and local officials are cooperating closely in launching a "political offensive" against the terrorists, who are believed responsible for a series of arsons and murders against the Buddhist community since late last year.

The new policy also emphasizes close cooperation among government agencies dealing with southern problems. It also requires the government to promote ties with Islamic countries in order to stop the support given by some nations to the Muslim terrorists.

Chatchai Will Not Allow Chawalit To Resign
BK1211023388 Bangkok THE NATION in English
12 Nov 88 p 2

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan said yesterday he will not allow Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut to resign next year.

"We still need (the) army commander-in-chief. How can we allow him to resign?" said Chatchai who is also defence minister.

Chatchai was commenting on a report that Chawalit is planning to retire next year—three years ahead of his mandatory retirement.

"It is easy for officials at other ministries to resign. But not at the Defence Ministry," he told reporters in a brief interview at Government House after meeting Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng.

Chawalit had tried to resign in May this year but his resignation was stopped by then defence minister Phaniang Kantarat.

Deputy Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Wanchai Ruangtrakun on Thursday said all army officers still want Chatchai to stay on as army chief until he reaches his retirement age in 1992.

Armed Forces Chief-of-Staff Gen Sunthon Kongsomphong said he personally does not want Chawalit to resign.

But he said if Chawalit really wanted to enter politics, army officers, especially those belonging to Class One of the Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy, would support him.

Chawalit, 56, is tipped as a future candidate for the premiership. And observers say he is likely to enter politics and even set up his own political party to pave the way.

Chawalit said he wanted to retire early to give other army officers a chance for promotion. But after Phaniang withheld his resignation in May, Chawalit has not discussed the matter again.

Gen Sunthon said he does not know whether Chawalit would want to jump into politics after his early retirement.

But Sunthon said he personally believes that Chawalit can contribute more to the country as army chief at least until his mandatory retirement.

An informed source close to Chawalit said the army chief is likely to keep his promise to resign—most probably in September next year.

Vietnam

State Bank Devalues Dong by 85.9 Percent

BK1711062188 Hong Kong AFP in English 0612 GMT
17 Nov 88

[Figures as received]

[Text] Hanoi, Nov 17 (AFP)—Vietnam has devalued the dong by 85.9 percent from 368 dong to the dollar to 2,600 and is to let the central bank determine future exchange-rate adjustments independently, officials said Thursday.

State Bank of Vietnam official Cu Huy Toan said authorities had also decided allow the currency to fluctuate according to inflationary pressures with adjustments anticipated for each five percent increase in prices.

The government does not publish inflation figures but foreign experts estimate the country's annual inflation rate at 700 percent to 1,000 percent.

The latest devaluation took effect on November 10 and follows a decree by the Council of Ministers signed by Prime Minister Do Muoi a month earlier on October 10, officials said. Mr. Toan said the central bank was now free to fix the currency's value without government decrees.

The new official rate for the dollar is 56.5 percent of its free-market rate of 4,600 dong. The dong has also been devalued against other currencies to 21 dong for the Japanese yen, 1,469 for the West German mark, 4,212 for the British pound, 427 for the French franc and 334 for the Hong Kong dollar.

Mr. Toan said the new rates apply to Vietnamese living at home or abroad, foreigners residing in Vietnam as well as foreign and private Vietnamese companies. State-owned companies trading with foreign countries would be subject to a more advantageous rate, he added.

The latest devaluation is seen here as inevitable given the widening gap between official and free-market rates for foreign currencies. The last devaluation of the Vietnamese currency took place on December 1 when it was devalued by 78 percent from 80 dong to the dollar to 368.

Nguyen Van Linh Addresses Youth Leaders

BK1111090188 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 10 Nov 88

[Report on CPV General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh's visit to Kim Dong Publishing House in Hanoi on 10 November]

[Summary] On the morning of 10 November, party General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh called at the Kim Dong Publishing House in Hanoi and viewed an exhibition of pictures about Uncle Ho's childhood drawn by painter Le Lan and captioned by writer Son Tung. These are the works that the Kim Dong Publishing House will published on the occasion of Uncle Ho's 100th birthday.

Comrades Ha Quang Du, first secretary of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union [HCMCYU]; Phan Hien, vice information minister; and Nguyen Thang Du, director of the Kim Dong Publishing House; and the creators of the pictures briefed the general secretary about the publishing house's work.

"After viewing the pictures, the comrade general secretary cordially addressed those present in the exhibition room."

[Begin Nguyen Van Linh recording] "I am deeply moved by both the pictures and the captions you showed me. There were many things I did not fully understand until now, after viewing your pictures. I am sure that they will help educate our youths and teenagers, and even adults, not only in Vietnam but also in other countries. That is why you were correct when you decided to publish them in many languages.

"Born into a very poor family, Uncle Ho himself was also poor. Despite his background of a patriotic intellectual, he went to Saigon to work, first as a laborer, then a shipmate. Later, he traveled to France, where he came into contact with Marxism-Leninism, and then introduced it to our country. On this basis, Uncle Ho succeeded in building a communist party to lead our people in successfully carrying out the August Revolution and the two victorious anti-French and anti-U.S. wars of resistance. This was Uncle Ho's very outstanding achievement. Not only that, prompted by the oppression and exploitation by French imperialists and colonialists and their henchmen, Uncle Ho also wrote press articles in the defense of small and weak countries and peoples. The son of a poor scholar, Uncle Ho set out to seek a way for national salvation.

"You, comrades, are in a difficult situation, yet you still managed to create these pictures about Sen village [Ho Chi Minh's birthplace]. In so doing, you have earned honors for our national art and have followed Uncle Ho's example." [end recording]

"The comrade general secretary also devoted much time to addressing the HCMCYU leaders and cadres on the task of educating youths and teenagers in the current situation, especially the need to use literary and artistic works in building a new type of socialist man. On this occasion, he told a story."

[Begin Nguyen Van Linh recording] "One day, I went to the Tran Vo Pagoda [in Hanoi] for a visit. There, I saw a very large number of youths, including some clad in military uniforms; that is, young soldiers who came for religious ceremonies. They lighted joss sticks, performed religious rituals, and mumbled some prayers in a such a low voice that even though I tried hard to listen I could not hear what they said. However, looking at their faces, I saw expressions of great reverence. Superstition usually springs up in people in very difficult times, from which they cannot find a way out. Therefore, we must educate youth in such a way as to enable them to see the future, especially when we live in a socialist country. When we encounter difficulties in life and face unemployment, and when students cannot find work after graduation—and even if they can find jobs, their living conditions are still very harsh—we usually cannot see the future."

"These pictures, in my opinion, are very good art works for educating not only youths and teenagers but adults as well. This is because, in difficult the situation faced by the country, while the majority of our cadres have striven to overcome the difficulties, not a few of them have lapsed into negativism, causing more difficulties to the country. Therefore, re-reading and recalling the story of Uncle Ho's struggle from his childhood to his becoming one of our national leaders as told in these literary works is an educational experience for the people of all ages in our country." [end recording]

On behalf of the HCMCYU, Ha Quang Du and the creators of the pictures promised to do a good job in carrying out the comrade general secretary's recommendations.

U.S. Ship Said Drifting After Typhoon Damage
BK1611121788 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 16 Nov 88

[Text] On 15 November 1988, the Council of Ministers' Office sent the following message to the General Department of the Haiphong sea route and some agencies concerned:

On 7 November 1988, a ship named the "Oakland" was driven by typhoon winds into the sea area of Tam Giang-Nui Thanh in Quang Nam-Da Nang Province. The provincial authorities are seeking in every way to rescue the ship.

An initial report reveals that a red-painted white-rimmed letter S is seen on the smokestack. By investigating the name list of registered ships dated June 1986, the vessel "Oakland" belongs to the (Kaihonity) Company, serial number KPIV, of the United States, registered in Port of Wilmington. Its loading capacity is 17,249 tonnes.

Spokesman on Troop Pullout, Thailand Relations
BK1711105488 Hanoi International Service in English
1000 GMT 17 Nov 88

[Text] The spokeswoman of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry, Mrs Ho The Lan, said: the 50,000 Vietnamese army volunteers to be withdrawn this year will surely be pulled out of Kampuchea 31 December 1988.

Speaking with newsmen in Hanoi on 17 November, Mrs Ho The Lan said: The Vietnamese Foreign Ministry will inform of a definite time for the newsmen to witness this drive of troop pullout.

Mrs Ho The Lan also informed that after this troop pullout, there remains in Kampuchea 50,000 army volunteers.

The spokeswoman also said: Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng chose Thailand as the first leg in his tour of ASEAN countries to discuss Kampuchea-related problems indicates the importance of Sino-Thai relations on the question of Kampuchea. The proposal put forward by China in Bangkok on the solution to Kampuchea only demands an early Vietnamese troop pullout without mentioning measures to prevent the Khmer Rouge return to power in Kampuchea.

On equitable and lasting solution to Kampuchea, the spokeswoman said it requires a more equitable and realistic approach.

Dealing with Thailand, the spokeswoman pointed to Thailand's wish to turn Indochina from a battlefield into a market and to improve relations with Laos is appreciated. This is because, she added, it continues efforts to build a Southeast Asia in peace, stability, cooperation, and friendship. Regrettably, regarding the Kampuchean problem, Thailand has not shifted to that direction.

Radio Calls for Removal of Khmer Rouge Leaders
BK1611141588 Hanoi International Service in English
1000 GMT 16 Nov 88

[Station commentary: "The Khmer Rouge Leaders Remain Criminals of Genocide"]

[Text] It is not without reason that of late, Pol Pot and other Khmer Rouge leaders again came under strong public fire. Notorious for their mass killing of Khmer

civilians in the 4 years in power from 1975 to late 1978, now the Khmer Rouge continues its heinous act of human rights violations in the refugee camps controlled by it along the Thai border. A recent issue of THE NEW YORK TIMES informed that thousands of Khmer refugees were being transferred from camps in Thailand to areas along the Kampuchean-Thai border. In fact, the Khmer Rouge has kept doing this since June and at least 15,000 Khmer refugees have been forced at gunpoint to leave the camps for Khmer-Rouge controlled areas close to the border. These places lack security and were planted with mines, not to mention the threat of malaria and medicinal shortage.

The INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE on 4 November noted that the Khmer Rouge compelled Khmer refugee camp inmates to do hard labor, prepare supplies to last in a future civil war. The documents collected from the Khmer Rouge reveal a plot to wrest back power by fair means or foul.

Radio BBC has reported serious cases of human rights violations in recent weeks at Khmer Rouge-controlled camps. Women and children, the radio said, had to carry arms, ammunition, and supplies for the criminals. Many executions were conducted without trial. Other sources said that all the roads to Thailand have been blocked by mines to prevent the refugees from escaping.

The criminal acts taken by the Khmer Rouge give rise to public concern about its dye-in-the-wool nature. They provide new grounds for the universal demand that measures be taken to prevent a Khmer Rouge comeback to Kampuchea.

Vernon Walters, American ambassador to the United Nations, emphasized a main factor, that is how to eradicate Pol Pot and other Khmer Rouge leaders who are responsible for mass killing the people in Kampuchea and large-scale human rights violations.

In this connection, it is necessary to quote the idea of chairman of the Council of Ministers of the PRK in an interview with THE WASHINGTON POST in mid-November. Mr Hun Sen said: The only way to prevent the Khmer Rouge to return is to stop providing foreign aid and sanctuary to its activities. Reality has substantiated this correct and judicious demand by the PRK in seeking a political solution to Kampuchea. Specifically, the top leaders of the Khmer Rouge must be removed and its military forces disarmed.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit
BK1711101688 Hanoi International Service in English
1000 GMT 17 Nov 88

[Text] Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas arrived in Hanoi Thursday for an official friendship visit to Vietnam as guest of the Vietnamese government.

NHAN DAN Welcomes Visit

BK1711080688 Hanoi VNA in English 0705 GMT
17 Nov 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 17—Welcoming the Indonesian foreign minister's arrival in Hanoi today on an official visit at the invitation of Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, the national daily NHAN DAN carries an article introducing the Republic of Indonesia.

The paper recalls the achievements made by the Indonesian people in national construction since they regained independence in 1945 and praises the fine relations between Vietnam and Indonesia. It says:

"Vietnam and Indonesia are bound by time-honoured and close relations. The two countries established diplomatic relations in 1955. In 1959 President Ho Chi Minh visited the beautiful island country, opening a new page in the history of the relations between the two nations. Over the past years, Vietnam and Indonesia have made joint efforts to further develop their relations and promote the trend of dialogue in the region and throughout the world. A series of mutual friendship visits by high-ranking delegations of the two countries, the Vietnam-Indonesia symposiums on peace, stability and friendship in Southeast Asia held alternately in Hanoi and Jakarta and the activities made by the Vietnam-Indonesia Friendship Association are all aimed at enhancing mutual understanding and multi-faceted cooperation between the two countries in the interests of Vietnam and Indonesia and of peace and stability in Southeast Asia, in the Asian and Pacific region and throughout the world. The Vietnam visit this time of Foreign Minister Ali Alatas is new contribution in that direction."

NHAN DAN Welcomes Founding of Palestinian State
BK1711075188 Hanoi VNA in English 0700 GMT
17 Nov 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 17—The Vietnamese people welcome the declaration of the setting up of the independent Palestinian state and the results obtained at the 19th Meeting of the Palestinian National Council [P.N.C.], says NHAN DAN in a commentary today.

The paper describes the P.N.C. meeting, the adoption of its political declaration and all decisions as well as the warm welcome by thousands of Palestinians in Gaza Strip as "events of great significance marking a new important development of the path of the Palestinian people's struggle for their fundamental national rights," and "the results of their persistent and arduous struggle in the past more than 40 years." "Once again," says NHAN DAN, "we affirm our strong support for the Palestinian people's just struggle. Each success and growth of the Palestinian revolutionary cause is an active contribution to the common revolutionary cause of peoples in the Middle-East and the world as a whole for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress."

Correction to Council of State Communique

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Council of State Meets, Issues Communique," published in the 14 November East Asia DAILY REPORT, page 57:

Penultimate graf, only sentence make read: ...to appoint Comrade Pham Song, vice minister of... (changing new public health minister's name from "Pham Tang" to "Pham Song")

Australia

Chinese Premier Li Peng Pays Visit

Holds Talks in Canberra

BK1711070388 Melbourne Overseas Service in English
0500 GMT 17 Nov 88

[Text] The Chinese premier, Mr Li Peng, has been holding high-level talks in Canberra with the prime minister of Australia, Mr Hawke, and members of his Cabinet. During his stay in Canberra, Mr Li will sign a double taxation and fisheries agreement with Australia, and he is expected to consolidate and extend long-term and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Mr Hawke said the visit was one of the most important of Australia's bicentennial year.

Mr Li will present gifts—two stone lions, some (?palace) lanterns, and two jade carvings for the bicentennial.

Views Relations With Indonesia

LD1711095088 Melbourne Overseas Service in English
0900 GMT 17 Nov 88

[Text] The Chinese premier, Mr Li Peng, has said that China is ready to restore relations with Indonesia immediately. But the premier said Indonesia had not made up its mind yet whether it wanted to resume the relationship, which was broken off following an attempted coup in Jakarta in 1965. He believed two reasons for this were the large Chinese population in Indonesia and the existence of the Communist Party in that country. China, he said, did not interfere in the internal affairs of other states and had no contact with the Communist Party in Indonesia.

Mr Li's offer of renewed friendship with Indonesia was made at a news conference in Canberra today following talks he had with the Australian Government. The Chinese premier said Sino-Indonesian ties had been one of a number of topics covered in his talks with Australia's Prime Minister Mr Hawke.

Holds News Conference in Canberra

BK1711095088 Melbourne Overseas Service in English
0803 GMT 17 Nov 88

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] China's premier, Li Peng, says that China is ready to restore full relations with Indonesia if Indonesia is agreeable. However, Premier Li cautioned that he thought Indonesia had not yet made up its mind if it wanted to normalize relations between the two countries. Premier Li is on a week-long visit to Australia. During Mr Li's official visit to Canberra, the Chinese premier discussed the issue of relations with Jakarta with

Australia's prime minister, Bob Hawke, and talked to Australian and Chinese journalists about a wide range of bilateral and regional concerns. In Canberra, (Stuart Heather) reports:

Mr Li had private talks with Mr Hawke in which they canvassed prospects for a political solution in Kampuchea and bilateral relations between China and the Soviet Union, the United States, and Indonesia. Afterwards, the premier addressed the National Press Club and answered reporters questions in what amounted to a wide-ranging news conference—possibly the first he had held in the West.

Mr Li, through an interpreter, indicated that China was willing to end the more than 20 years of frosty relations with Indonesia.

[Begin recording] [Li interpreter interspersed with Li's recording in Mandarin] As far as China is concerned we don't have any difficulty in this regard. If it is agreeable to the Indonesians, we can restore our diplomatic relations with them tomorrow. But to tell you frankly, I am afraid the Indonesians have not made up their mind yet.

[(Heather)] But the premier said there were two reasons why Indonesia still had not made up its mind—the existence of the Communist Party in Indonesia and Indonesia's large population of Chinese origin. Mr Li said China regarded these people as Indonesians and not Chinese and he urged them to live in harmony in their country. On the Indonesian Communist Party, the premier said:

[Li's interpreter] We do not interfere in the internal affairs of other countries. The question of the Communist Party in Indonesia is their question and we do not have contact with the Communist Party in Indonesia.

[(Heather)] On the future of Tibet, annexed by China in 1950, Premier Li ruled out any discussions about its independence, emphasizing that Tibet was Chinese territory. However, he affirmed that China was prepared to negotiate with Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, on issues other than independence.

Mr Li said he hoped that China would have good relations with the Soviet Union, but stressing China's independent role in world affairs he signalled there would be no return to their intimate relationship of the fifties that was based on Moscow's leadership of the communist world.

[Li's interpreter] China is ready to live in harmony with all other countries in the world on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence and the development of the Sino-Soviet relations were not, in fact, the relationship between China and the Western countries. As a matter of fact, the relationship between China and the

Soviet Union is already not lagging far behind the relationship between the Soviet Union and the Western countries. [paragraph as heard]

[(Heather)] On China's domestic affairs, Mr Li said economic growth, which has slowed marginally, would be maintained at 7 to 8 percent and that the reform process would continue.

[Li's interpreter] We will continue with the reform in enterprises and improve economic returns by gradually setting up under state (?macro) controls a mechanism by which enterprises operate on their own, assume responsibilities for their profit and [words indistinct] and keep themselves within proper bounds. We will go on with the political structural reform and promote the socialist democracy. [end recording]

China Awarded AUSSAT Launch Contract

BK1711100088 Hong Kong AFP in English 0932 GMT
17 Nov 88

[Text] Sydney, Nov 17 (AFP)—Australia's state-owned satellite agency AUSSAT Pty. Ltd. announced here Thursday that China's Long March rocket had been selected to put Australia's next generation of satellites into orbit in 1991 and 1992.

AUSSAT Managing Director Graham Gosewinckel said the decision remained conditional, however, on approval from Australia's Western allies.

In Canberra, visiting Chinese Premier Li Peng and Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke welcomed the cooperation between AUSSAT and China for the launch of the satellites.

"AUSSAT has complete confidence in the People's Republic of China's ability to provide Australia with a successful launch of our next two satellites," Mr Gosewinckel said in a statement.

"Today's announcement has been made to enable necessary preliminary procurement and contractual arrangements regarding the launch to be put in place by the Hughes Aircraft Company (AUSSAT's prime contractor)," he said.

The Long March was chosen over Europe's Ariane and the U.S. Titan rockets despite concern about the risks of using American technology aboard a communist launch vehicle.

President Ronald Reagan's administration gave clearance for use of the Long March, as did Congress, but the final decision on the transfer of technology rests with the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (COCOM), a grouping of Western nations which monitors high-technology exports to the Eastern bloc.

Mr Gosewinckel said the Chinese tender was highly price competitive and AUSSAT's decision to use the Long March was taken on the basis that the bid from the China Great Wall Industry Corporation was the most cost-effective method of getting the satellites into orbit.

Lee Kuan Yew Criticized for Comments

BK1611064988 Melbourne Overseas Service in English
0500 GMT 16 Nov 88

[Text] There has been criticism of the prime minister of Singapore, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, over his comments on Australia's continuing immigration debate. The Australian spokesman for the Committee for Democracy in Burma, Dr Than Lwin, says Mr Lee should correct human rights abuses in his own country and region before criticizing Australia.

Australia's federal opposition leader, Mr Howard, has rejected Mr Lee's suggestion that Canberra should relax its controls on Asian immigration, saying the Singapore leader should stay out of domestic politics.

Speaking on nationwide television last night, Mr Lee criticized Mr Howard's immigration policies and denied [word indistinct] claim that federal government ministers had been grovelling to Asian nations in attempt to minimize damage caused by the immigration debate.

Commenting on Mr Howard's statement that Australia should be able to control the source and level of its migrant inflow, Mr Lee said Australia would be foolish to pursue a policy of restricting Asian migration.

Fiji

Troops on 'Exercise' Alert in Suva

BK1711065788 Melbourne Overseas Service in English
0500 GMT 17 Nov 88

[Text] In Fiji, troops have been deployed around a number of key buildings in the capital, Suva, and in other centers around the country in what has been described as a continuing military exercise. A Radio Australia's correspondent in Suva says the troops who are unarmed have taken up positions outside the official residence of the president, Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, the capital's two radio stations, and key points such as water and electricity installations.

Our correspondent says a Fiji Army official spokesman claims the deployments are part of a continuing military exercise to keep troops on alert for any emergency.

The exercise goes on in the country's western division and is expected to continue for an indefinite period. Our correspondent says the exercise comes in advance of an important meeting of Fijian chiefs to be held at Army Headquarters next Monday to consider the government's proposed draft constitution.

However, reports from Fiji indicate the exercise is a response to the declaration of a fourth confederacy or state in the west—the economic base for Fiji. The declaration by Lautokan chief was expected to be discussed when the Great Council of Chiefs meet on Monday.

Government Lifts Internal Security Decree
*BK1711084088 Hong Kong AFP in English 0833 GMT
17 Nov 88*

[Text] Suva, Nov 17 (AFP)—The Fiji Government announced Thursday it had suspended its internal security decree which was aimed at countering subversive activities in this island nation.

Information Minister Ratu Inoke Kubuabola said in a statement that cabinet Thursday decided to suspend the decree to give people their fundamental rights and freedom.

The interim Fijian government promulgated the decree in June following the interception of illegal weapons smuggled into Fiji.

The decree gave sweeping powers of search, seizure and detention to the security forces.

Ratu Inoke said that in lifting the decree the government also wished to remove any fears that might exist among the people of Fiji in expressing their views on the country's draft constitution.

Rabuka, Singapore's Lee Kuan Yew Hold Talks
*BK1111132888 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES
in English 11 Nov 88 p 1*

[By Patrick Daniel]

[Text] Suva—Fiji's military leader, Major-General Siveni Rabuka, yesterday told Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew during a private "four-eyes" meeting that the most pressing need facing the country is to look after the political rights and economic welfare of native Fijians.

Speaking to reporters after his hour-long meeting with Mr Lee, Maj-Gen Rabuka said he wants native Fijians to retain political domination over the country's ethnic Indians.

He also felt native Fijians need special consideration to ensure that they make economic progress.

Fiji's economy is dominated by Indians, who make up 48 percent of the population.

Maj-Gen Rabuka—who staged a military coup in May last year after ethnic Indian politicians won power in the last general election—denied that the country's new draft Constitution is racist, even though it guarantees that Fiji would be run by native Fijians.

Asked whether Fiji's long-term stability would be endangered if he failed to win the support and co-operation of the Indians here, he said: "Yes, that could be a worrying factor.

"But I seriously believe that the Indians who have made up their minds that this is home will—given time to forget the disturbances of last year and the insecurity they felt—settle down and contribute solidly, as they have done in the past."

Commenting on the call by extremist Fijian nationalists for Indians to be repatriated, he said: "It is too late to do that now ... They elected to stay because life here was good for them, and we respect that."

Questioned about earlier reports that he would bring in Chinese from China if Indians leave the country, he said: "We would have to fill the vacuum.

"If we cannot provide replacements locally, then we will have to look elsewhere. I don't know whether the Chinese would like to come here in numbers."

He added that Fiji is getting some help from China as well as international agencies in some areas where there are manpower shortages, especially in professional fields.

Since the coup, an estimated 8,000 ethnic Indians have emigrated to countries like Australia and New Zealand.

But the immediate problem, said Maj-Gen Rabuka, is to convince leaders of the opposition coalition to agree to a Constitution that would return Fiji to a parliamentary democracy.

He said: "It may not be the best. (But) if we can come up with one that we can start with, I think half the problem will be solved."

Asked what his next move would be if the opposition rejected the draft Constitution even after a dialogue, he said: "It's not my move. It's what the Prime Minister intends to do."

Pressed on what advice he would give, he said: "I would go ahead and adopt that Constitution rather than have the military take over again.

Earlier, Maj-Gen Rabuka said Mr Lee had expressed his genuine wish that the problems in Fiji be resolved.

After they had spoken on the general situation, he asked Mr Lee for his view on what might be the best option for Fiji to take, but Mr Lee declined to comment on this, he said.

"(Mr Lee) said that's an internal matter for Fiji to work out. He emphasised the need to concentrate on the economy and try to continue the improvement that's being shown now.

"And also on the education of the Fijians, to (get them to) understand the realities of the modern world."

Maj-Gen Rabuka said also that Fiji could draw some lessons from Singapore's multi-racial society.

"We hope that as a result of his visit here, we can pick up some ideas ... perhaps on the education side, particularly the education of the Fijian people."

Asked what he thought of Mr Lee, whom he was meeting for the first time, he said: "One can't help but be overawed by the man. He has wide experience ... He is a great leader (and) knows what is good for Singapore and his people."

At the end of his meeting with Mr Lee, Maj-Gen Rabuka autographed a book giving his view of the recent events in Fiji. Titled Rabuka—No Other Way, it was written by two journalists based on extensive interviews with him.

Lee Comments on Draft Constitution

*BK1111092888 Melbourne Overseas Service in English
0500 GMT 11 Nov 88*

[Text] Singapore's prime minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, says Fiji's draft constitution will not resolve the basic problem which led to the country's two military coups.

Mr Lee was speaking in Suva at the end of a 4-day visit to Fiji during which he met the interim government leaders and the deposed prime minister, Dr Timoci Bavadra.

Radio Australia's South Pacific correspondent, (Jemima Gareth), said Mr Lee voiced the belief that the cause of the coups had been the disparity in earning power between native Fijians and Fiji Indians. He said the Fiji Government, which had made some constitutional changes to tackle socio-economic problems, could be storing up problems for the future. What was needed was training and development programs to allow native Fijians to take an equal place in a modern economy.

The Singapore leader said the draft constitution would not achieve that objective. Fiji's constitutional problems would have to be solved by all the people and the way in which they will solve could help Fiji return to an honorable place in the community of nations and rejoin the Commonwealth.

Mr Lee added that the test of the constitutional solution would be whether it has the acceptance or, at least, the acquiescence of the Fiji Indian community.

AFP Notes Lee's Praise for Premier

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10 Nov 88*

[Text] Suva, Nov 10 (AFP)—Singapore Premier Lee Kuan Yew said here Thursday that Fiji was fortunate to have a leader like Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara to see the South Pacific island nation through its troubles of the past 18 months.

Mr Lee said he had told Fiji's military-backed administration that the republic's "greatest asset" was its prime minister, who had guided to nation for 17 years since independence in 1970.

The Singapore prime minister said a country caught in a constitutional crisis like Fiji needed respected leaders like Ratu Mara, whom he dubbed internationally reputable.

Fiji's 1970 constitution was revoked in October of last year when the island nation was declared a republic after military coups in May and September 1987 by Major General Sitiveni Rabuka.

Maj Gen Rabuka, who is now home affairs minister, overthrew the elected government of Prime Minister Timoci Bavadra on May 14, 1987.

Mr Lee said he had accepted an invitation from Ratu Mara to come to Fiji "as a friend of many years" so that he could obtain firsthand knowledge of the changing political climate here.

A Fiji Government statement said Ratu Mara and Mr Lee had exchanged views on a wide range of national and international matters.

Mr Lee has also discussed the possibility of a Fiji delegation visiting Singapore to observe that country's youth development program, the statement said.

On economic issues, Mr Lee initiated talks on diversifying trade, industrial development prospects and commerce links between the two countries.

Singapore is Fiji's second largest Asian trading partner, next to Japan.

Mr Lee, accompanied by nine senior government members, leaves for Sydney Friday at the end of a four-day visit.

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